

DOCTRINES
AND
DISCIPLINE

OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church

1912



THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
CINCINNATI NEW YORK

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OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

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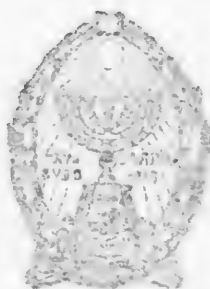
BISHOP LUTHER BARTON WILSON

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—General Conference Journal, 1912



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THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
New York

EPISCOPAL ADDRESS

To the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN: It is our privilege and duty to recommend to you this volume, which contains the DOCTRINES and DISCIPLINE of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which we believe are agreeable to the Word of God. Although the Word of God is the only sufficient rule of faith and practice, the Church, in the liberty given to it by the Lord, and following the example of other churches, ancient and modern, has modified its Discipline from time to time in order more fully to secure the end for which it was founded.

We believe that God's design in raising up the Methodist Episcopal Church in America was to aid in evangelizing the continent and "to spread

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scriptural holiness over these lands." Evidently God's blessing has been with us, and we have seen an extraordinary work extending throughout all the United States and Territories and throughout the British possessions in North America; also the planting of successful Missions in South America and Mexico. The Methodist Episcopal Church, in its organic form and spiritual power, has been established in Africa, Asia, and Europe, where God has given to it great prosperity.

During the period in which this work has been extending, the Church has revised its legislation to meet the demands created by its own activities and by the conditions of the different peoples among whom it strives to build up the Kingdom of God.

The peculiar Constitution and Administrative Rules of our Church, to which its success is largely due, deserve careful study. The Itinerant Min-

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istry, the subpastorate through Classes, the Episcopacy, the District Superintendency, the Conferences in their gradation, the Local Ministry, the Judicial Administration, the Interdependence of Ministry and Laity, with the well-defined duties and rights of each, are severally parts of a system which can be truly valued, profitably used, or wisely modified only by those who through loving and faithful study have become familiar with it.

Therefore this volume should be found in the home of every member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the more so because it contains the Doctrines maintained, in part or in whole, by every Evangelical Church.

The Order of Worship herein set forth we commend to your scrupulous observance. In substance it has been received from our Fathers, and has been approved by the judgment of the Church.

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If uniformly observed, it will continue to be both a token and a bond of unity throughout our widespread communion.

We remain your affectionate Brethren and Pastors:

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HISTORICAL STATEMENT

THE doctrine and spirit of Primitive Christianity have existed at different times and in different degrees in all branches of the kingdom of Christ among men. They were embodied in a new form on this wise:

"In 1729 two young men in England, reading the Bible, saw they could not be saved without holiness, followed after it, and incited others so to do. In 1737 they saw, likewise, that men are justified before they are sanctified; but still holiness was their object. God then thrust them out to raise a holy people."

This was the rise of Methodism, as given in the words of its founders, John and Charles Wesley, of Oxford University, Presbyters of the Church of England. Their evangelical labors were accompanied by an extraordinary divine influence; other Ministers and many Lay Preachers were raised up to aid them; and throughout England and in Scotland and Ireland arose *United Societies* of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness. These subsequently became the Wesleyan Churches of Great Britain.

In the year 1766 Philip Embury, a Wesleyan Local Preacher from Ireland, began to preach in New York City and formed a Society, now the John Street Church. Another Local Preacher, Thomas Webb, Captain in the British army, soon joined him and also preached in the city of New York and its vicinity. About the same time Robert Strawbridge, from Ireland, settled in Frederick County, Maryland, preach-

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

ing there and forming Societies. In 1769 Mr. Wesley sent to America two Itinerant Preachers, Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor, and in 1771 two others, Francis Asbury and Richard Wright. The work thus begun was signally owned of God, so that, at the close of the Revolutionary War, the number of Traveling Preachers was about eighty, and of members in the Societies, about fifteen thousand.

When the Independence of the United States was acknowledged by the treaty of 1783, the American Methodists, most of whom had been members of the Church of England, according to the declaration of Mr. Wesley, were "totally disentangled both from the State and the English hierarchy." He added: "They are now at full liberty simply to follow the Scriptures and the Primitive Church, and we judge it best that they should stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has so strangely made them free." The parish clergy had mostly returned to England, and the Methodist Societies were without ordained Pastors. "For hundreds of miles together" they were destitute of the Christian sacraments.

As his children in the Gospel, they appealed to Mr. Wesley for advice and help, and he responded by ordaining Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as Presbyters (or Elders) for America; and also, since he preferred the Episcopal form of Church government, by setting apart, by prayer and by the imposition of hands, the Rev. Thomas Coke, Doctor of Civil Law, a Presbyter of the Church of England, to be a Superintendent, "to preside over the flock of Christ" in America. In these services he was assisted by other ordained ministers. He also commissioned Dr. Coke to ordain, as joint Super-

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

intendent with himself, the Rev. Francis Asbury, then General Assistant for the American Societies. Mr. Wesley also prepared "Articles of Religion" and a "Sunday Service," both abbreviated from the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England. In the "Sunday Service" were included forms for the Administration of the Sacraments and for the ordination of Ministers.

At the "Christmas Conference," begun in Baltimore, Maryland, December 24, 1784, sixty Preachers met Dr. Coke and his companions. The plan of Mr. Wesley was submitted to them, and was unanimously and heartily approved. Thereupon they organized the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, and adopted the Articles of Religion and the Sunday Service prepared by Mr. Wesley, adding to the Articles one containing a recognition of the new Civil Government, and inserting in the Ritual a prayer for the Supreme Rulers of the United States. They also enacted all laws necessary for the government of the new Church. Mr. Asbury was elected to the Episcopal office conjointly with Dr. Coke, by whom, with the assistance of several Presbyters, he was duly consecrated a Bishop. Others were ordained Deacons, and thirteen were elected Elders, and either then or soon thereafter were duly ordained, two of them for missionary work in Nova Scotia and one for like work in Antigua, in the West Indies.

Such was the origin of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the first with an Episcopal form of government to attain an independent existence in the new Republic. While its polity and administrative rules have been modified from time to time to meet changing conditions and opportunities, it remains un-

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

changed in doctrine and in ministerial offices. Co-eval with the Republic, it has expanded with it, and has ministered to its moral and religious life. At this date (1912) its ministers and communicants, not including adherents, number more than three millions. Other Methodist Churches, derived from the original root, flourish by its side. Obviously its founders were wise and godly men, fulfilling the purpose of the great Head of the Church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has always believed that the only infallible proof of the legitimacy of any branch of the Christian Church is its ability to seek and to save the lost, and to disseminate the Pentecostal spirit and life. The chief stress has ever been laid, not upon the forms but upon the essentials of religion. It holds that true Churches of Christ may differ widely in ceremonies, ministerial orders, and government. Its members are allowed freedom of choice among the debated modes of Baptism. If any member has scruples against receiving the Lord's Supper kneeling, he is permitted to receive it standing or sitting. In ordinary worship its people are invited to unite in extemporary prayer, but for the Administration of the Sacraments, Ordinations, the Solemnization of Matrimony, the Burial of the Dead, and other special services, a Liturgy is appointed, taken in large part from Rituals used by the Universal Church from ancient times.

The sole object of the rules, regulations, and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church is that it may fulfill to the end of time its original divine commission as a leader in evangelization, in all true reforms, and in the promotion of fraternal relations among all branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ, with which it is a coworker in the spiritual conquest of the world for the Son of God.

THE CONSTITUTION

- I. ARTICLES OF RELIGION
- II. THE GENERAL RULES
- III. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND
GOVERNMENT

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PREAMBLE

In order the better to preserve our historic heritage, and the more effectually to coöperate with other branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ in advancing the kingdom of God among men, we, the ministers and laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in accordance with the methods of constitutional legislation in force among us, hereby ordain, establish, and set forth as the fundamental law or Constitution of the Methodist Episcopal Church the Articles of Religion, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government, here following, to wit:

DIVISION I

ARTICLES OF RELIGION

I. Of Faith in the Holy Trinity

¶ 1. There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

II. Of the Word, or Son of God, who was made very Man

¶ 2. The Son, who was the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided; whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

III. Of the Resurrection of Christ

¶ 3. Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

IV. Of the Holy Ghost

¶ 4. The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation

¶ 5. The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures we do understand those canonical books of the Old and

New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Cantica or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less.

All the books of the New Testament as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. *Of the Old Testament.*

¶ 6. The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth; yet, notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. *Of Original or Birth Sin.*

¶ 7. Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally

is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and on his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

VIII. *Of Free Will*

¶ 8. The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. *Of the Justification of Man*

¶ 9. We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

X. *Of Good Works*

¶ 10. Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

XI. *Of Works of Supererogation*

¶ 11. Voluntary works—besides, over, and above God's commandments—which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy

and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required: whereas Christ saith plainly: When ye have done all that is commanded of you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

XII. *Of Sin after Justification*

¶ 12. Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification: After we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

XIII. *Of the Church*

¶ 13. The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

XIV. *Of Purgatory*

¶ 14. The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XV. *Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand*

¶ 15. It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to administer the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. *Of the Sacraments*

¶ 16. Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by the which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called Sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the *corrupt* following of the Apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same they have a wholesome effect or operation: but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as Saint Paul saith, 1 Cor. 11. 29.

XVII. *Of Baptism*

¶ 17. Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.

XVIII. *Of the Lord's Supper*

¶ 18. The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a Sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

XIX. *Of both Kinds*

¶ 19. The Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the Lay People; for both the parts of the Lord's Sup-

per, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XX. *Of the one Oblation of Christ, finished upon the Cross*

¶ 20. The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXI. *Of the Marriage of Ministers*

¶ 21. The Ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXII. *Of the Rites and Ceremonies of Churches*

¶ 22. It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times, and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority, ought to be rebuked openly (that others may fear to

do the like), as one that offendeth against the common order of the Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular Church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

XXIII. *Of the Rulers of the United States of America*

¶ 23. The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors, and the Councils of State, *as the Delegates of the People*, are the Rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States, and by the Constitutions of their respective States. And the said States are a sovereign and independent Nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction.¹

XXIV. *Of Christian Men's Goods*

¶ 24. The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title, and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXV. *Of a Christian Man's Oath*

¶ 25. As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ

¹ As far as it respects civil affairs we believe it the duty of Christians, and especially of all Christian Ministers, to be subject to the supreme authority of the country where they may reside, and to use all laudable means to enjoin obedience to the powers that be; and therefore it is expected that all our Preachers and People, who may be under the British or any other Government, will behave themselves as peaceable and orderly subjects.

and James his Apostle; so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the Prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

DIVISION II

THE GENERAL RULES

The Nature, Design, and General Rules of our United Societies

¶ 26. In the latter end of the year 1739 eight or ten persons who appeared to be deeply convicted of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption, came to Mr. Wesley in London. They desired, as did two or three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together; which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on Thursday, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their number increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them; and they always concluded their meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

¶ 27. This was the rise of the UNITED SOCIETY, first in Europe, and then in America. Such a society is no other than "*a company of men having the form*

and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation."

¶ 28. That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called Classes, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a Class, one of whom is styled THE LEADER. It is his duty,

§ 1. To see each person in his Class once a week at least; in order, (1.) To inquire how his soul prospers. (2.) To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort, as occasion may require. (3.) To receive what he is willing to give toward the relief of the Preachers, Church, and poor.

§ 2. To meet the Ministers and the Stewards of the Society once a week; in order, (1.) To inform the Minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reproved. (2.) To pay the Stewards what he has received of his Class in the week preceding.

¶ 29. There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these Societies—"a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

¶ 30. It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

First: By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced; such as,

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

Slaveholding; buying or selling slaves.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using of many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking of things on usury—that is, unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

¶ 31. It is expected of all who continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

Second: By doing good; by being in every kind

merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison:

To their souls, by instructing, reproving, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine, that "we are not to do good unless *our hearts be free to it.*"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another; helping each other in business; and so much the more because the world will love its own and them *only.*

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them *falsely*, for the Lord's sake.

¶ 32. It is expected of all who desire to continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

Third: By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are,

The Public Worship of God.

The Ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

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Family and private Prayer.

Searching the Scriptures.

Fasting or Abstinence.

¶ 33. These are the General Rules of our Societies; all which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But if then he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

DIVISION III

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER I

Pastoral Charges, Quarterly and Annual Conferences

ARTICLE I. *Pastoral Charges*

¶ 34. Members of the Church shall be divided into local Societies, one or more of which shall constitute a Pastoral Charge.

ARTICLE II. *Quarterly Conferences*

¶ 35. A Quarterly Conference shall be organized in each Pastoral Charge, and be composed of such

persons and have such powers as the General Conference may direct.

ARTICLE III. *Annual Conferences*

¶ 36. The Traveling Preachers shall be organized by the General Conference into Annual Conferences, the sessions of which they are required to attend.

CHAPTER II

The General Conference

ARTICLE I. *How Composed*

¶ 37. The General Conference shall be composed of Ministerial and Lay Delegates, to be chosen as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II. *Ministerial Delegates*

¶ 38, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one Ministerial Delegate. The General Conference shall not allow more than one Ministerial Delegate for every fourteen Members of an Annual Conference, nor less than one for every forty-five; but for a fraction of two thirds or more of the number fixed by the General Conference as the ratio of representation an Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional Delegate.

§ 2. The Ministerial Delegates shall be elected by ballot by the Members of the Annual Conference at its session immediately preceding the General Conference. Such Delegates shall be Elders, at least twenty-five years of age, and shall have been Members of an Annual Conference four successive years, and at the time of their election and at the time of the session of the General Conference shall be Mem-

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bers of the Annual Conference which elected them. An Annual Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates.

§ 3. No Minister shall be counted twice in the same year in the basis for the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor vote in such election where he is not counted, nor vote in two Conferences in the same year on a constitutional question.

ARTICLE III. *Lay Delegates*

¶ 39, § 1. A Lay Electoral Conference shall be constituted quadrennially, or whenever duly called by the General Conference, within the bounds of each Annual Conference, for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference, and for the purpose of voting on constitutional changes. It shall be composed of lay members, one from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, chosen by the lay members of the Charge over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Pastoral Charge shall also elect in the same manner one Reserve Delegate. Members not less than twenty-one years of age, and holding membership in the Pastoral Charges electing them, are eligible to membership in the Lay Electoral Conference.

§ 2. The Lay Electoral Conference shall assemble at the seat of the Annual Conference on the first Friday of the session immediately preceding the General Conference, unless the General Conference shall provide otherwise.

§ 3. The Lay Electoral Conference shall organize by electing a President and Secretary, shall adopt its

own Rules of Order, and shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

§ 4. Each Lay Electoral Conference shall be entitled to elect as many Delegates to the General Conference as there are Ministerial Delegates from the Annual Conference. A Lay Electoral Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates. These elections shall be by ballot.

§ 5. Lay members twenty-five years of age, or over, holding membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference, and having been lay members of the Church five years next preceding, shall be eligible to election to the General Conference. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference.

ARTICLE IV. *Credentials*

¶ 40. The Secretaries of the several Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences shall furnish certificates of election to the Delegates severally, and send a certificate of such election to the Secretary of the preceding General Conference immediately after the adjournment of said Annual or Lay Electoral Conference.

ARTICLE V. *Sessions*

¶ 41, § 1. The General Conference shall meet at 10 o'clock on the morning of the first secular day in the month of May, in every fourth year from the date of the first Delegated General Conference—

namely, the year of our Lord 1812—and at such place in the United States of America as shall have been determined by the preceding General Conference, or by a Commission to be appointed quadrennially by the General Conference, and acting under its authority; which Commission shall have power also in case of emergency to change the place for the meeting of the General Conference, a majority of the General Superintendents concurring in such change.

§ 2. The General Superintendents, or a majority of them, by and with the advice of two thirds of all the Annual Conferences, shall have the power to call an extra session of the General Conference at any time, constituted in the usual way; such session to be held at such time and place as a majority of the General Superintendents, and also of the above Commission, shall designate.

§ 3. In case of a great emergency two thirds of the General Superintendents may call special sessions of the Annual Conferences, at such time and place as they may think wise, to determine the question of an extra session of the General Conference, or to elect Delegates thereto. They may also in such cases call extra sessions of the Lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference.

ARTICLE VI. *Presiding Officers*

¶ 42, § 1. The General Conference shall elect by ballot from among the Traveling Elders as many General Superintendents as it may deem necessary.

§ 2. The General Superintendents shall preside in the General Conference in such order as they may determine; but if no General Superintendent be pres-

ent, the General Conference shall elect one of its members to preside *pro tempore*.

§ 3. The presiding officer of the General Conference shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the General Conference; but questions of law shall be decided by the General Conference.

ARTICLE VII. *Organization*

¶ 43. When the time for opening the General Conference arrives the presiding officer shall take the chair, and direct the Secretary of the preceding General Conference, or in his absence one of his assistants, to call the roll of the Delegates-elect. Those who have been duly returned shall be recognized as members, their certificates of election being *prima facie* evidence of their right to membership; provided, however, that in case of a challenge of any person thus enrolled, such challenge being signed by at least six Delegates from the territory of as many different Annual Conferences, three such Delegates being Ministers and three Laymen, the person so challenged shall not participate in the proceedings of the General Conference, except to speak on his own case, until the question of his right shall have been decided. The General Conference shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

ARTICLE VIII. *Quorum*

¶ 44. When the General Conference is in session it shall require the presence of two thirds of the whole number of Delegates to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but a less number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day in order to secure a quorum, and at the final session

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may approve the Journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn *sine die*.

ARTICLE IX. *Voting*

¶ 45. The Ministerial and Lay Delegates shall deliberate together as one body. They shall also vote together as one body with the following exception: A separate vote shall be taken on any question when requested by one third of either order of Delegates present and voting. In all cases of separate voting it shall require the concurrence of the two orders to adopt the proposed measure; except that for changes of the Constitution a vote of two thirds of the General Conference shall be sufficient, as provided in Article XI.

ARTICLE X. *Powers and Restrictions*

¶ 46. The General Conference shall have full power to make rules and regulations for the Church under the following limitations and restrictions, namely:

§ 1. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, nor change our Articles of Religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.

§ 2. The General Conference shall not organize nor authorize the organization of an Annual Conference with less than twenty-five members.

§ 3. The General Conference shall not change nor alter any part or rule of our government so as to do away Episcopacy, nor destroy the plan of our itinerant General Superintendency; but may elect a Missionary Bishop or Superintendent for any of our foreign Missions, limiting his Episcopal jurisdiction to the same respectively.

§ 4. The General Conference shall not revoke nor change the General Rules of our Church.

§ 5. The General Conference shall not deprive our Ministers of the right of trial by the Annual Conference, or by a select number thereof, nor of an appeal; nor shall it deprive our members of the right of trial by a committee of members of our Church, nor of an appeal.

§ 6. The General Conference shall not appropriate the produce of the Book Concern, nor of the Chartered Fund, to any purpose other than for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Superannuated¹ Preachers, their wives, widows, and children.

ARTICLE XI. *Amendments*

¶ 47. The concurrent recommendation of two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and of two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall suffice to authorize the next ensuing General Conference by a two-thirds vote to alter or amend any of the provisions of this Constitution excepting Article X, § 1; and also, whenever such alteration or amendment shall have been first recommended by a General Conference by a two-thirds vote, then so soon as two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall have concurred therein, such alteration or amendment shall take effect; and the result of the vote shall be announced by the General Superintendents.

¹Elsewhere designated as "Retired" Ministers.

END OF THE CONSTITUTION

END OF THE CONSTITUTION

LEGISLATION

LEGISLATION

PART I
THE CHURCH

- I. MEMBERSHIP
- II. SPECIAL ADVICES
- III. WORSHIP

CHAPTER I

MEMBERSHIP

I. Admission into the Church

¶ 48. In order to prevent improper persons from gaining admission into the Church, and in order to exercise the power of godly admonition and discipline:

§ 1. Let great care be taken in receiving members, and let only those be enrolled as probationers who shall give satisfactory evidence of an earnest desire to be saved from their sins and to enjoy the fellowship of God's people.

§ 2. Let the Pastor and the Class Leaders see that all who seek admission are made acquainted with the doctrines, rules, and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are assigned to some department of the Sunday School for the study of the Bible. Those so admitted are expected to conform closely to the rules and usages of the Church and are entitled to all its spiritual privileges and aids; but they may not be members of the Quarterly Conference, nor take part in judicial proceedings except as witnesses.

§ 3. Let no one be admitted into full membership in the Church until he has been recommended by the Official Board or the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, with the approval of the Pastor; has been baptized, and, on examination, has given satisfactory assurance both of the correctness of his faith and of his willingness to observe and keep the rules

of the Church; when he may be admitted in accordance with the form prescribed in the Ritual.

§ 4. A member in good standing in any orthodox Evangelical Church who desires to unite with us may be received into membership upon giving satisfactory answers to the usual inquiries.

§ 5. Let the Pastor and the Committee on Church Records be careful to see that the names of all persons received into the Church are duly recorded. The Pastor shall report at each Quarterly Conference all changes of membership that have occurred during the quarter.

II. Baptized Children and the Church

¶ 49. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are members of the Kingdom of God, and therefore graciously entitled to Baptism; but, as infant Baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for Baptism that they will use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God; and they should be solemnly admonished of this obligation, and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

¶ 50. We regard all children who have been baptized as placed in visible covenant relation to God, and as probationers under the special care and supervision of the Church.

¶ 51. The Pastor shall make an accurate register of the names of all the baptized children within his pastoral care, giving the dates of their birth and baptism, the names of their parents, and the places

of their residence. He shall also enroll their names as probationers; and should they remove, he shall issue Certificates of Registration to the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds they have moved.

¶ 52. The Pastor shall organize the baptized children of the Church, when they shall have reached the age of ten years, or at an earlier age when it is deemed advisable, into classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters, and appoint suitable leaders, whose duty it shall be to meet them once a week, and instruct them in the nature, design, and obligations of Baptism, and in the truths of religion necessary to make them "wise unto salvation"; to urge them to give regular attendance upon the means of grace; to advise, exhort, and encourage them to an immediate consecration of their hearts and lives to God, and to inquire into the state of their religious experience; provided, that unbaptized children shall not be excluded from such classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters.

¶ 53. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into membership in the Church, on recommendation of the Official Board or the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, with the approval of the Pastor, after publicly assenting before the Church to the Baptismal Covenant and to the usual questions on Doctrines and Discipline, as prescribed in the Ritual.

¶ 54. Whenever a baptized child shall be deprived of Christian guardianship, by orphanage or otherwise, the Pastor shall ascertain and report the facts in the case to the Official Board or to the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; and such provision shall be made

for the Christian training of the child as the circumstances of the case shall admit or require.

III. Transfer of Membership

¶ 55, § 1. An acceptable member of the Church desiring to remove his membership from one Pastoral Charge to another is entitled to be transferred as follows: The Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, the District Superintendent, shall send to the Pastor of the Charge to which the member is to be transferred a Certificate in the following form:

"This is to certify that A. B., who holds a notice of this letter, is an acceptable Member of the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in, and, having requested that his membership be transferred to the Methodist Episcopal Church in is affectionately commended to the fellowship of said Church. When the Church to which this Certificate of Transfer is issued acknowledges the receipt of the same and his enrollment, his membership in this Church shall cease."

§ 2. Notice of this transfer shall be given to the member in accordance with the following form:

"At your request I this day have sent a Certificate of Transfer of your membership to the Methodist Episcopal Church in When said Certificate is acknowledged and your name is recorded in the records of said Church, your membership in this Church will cease."

§ 3. The original Certificate shall be accompanied by a blank for the acknowledgment of the same, in accordance with the following form:

"The Certificate of Transfer of the membership of A. B. from the Methodist Episcopal Church in to the Methodist Episcopal Church in is hereby acknowledged. has been duly received as a Member of this Church and thereby ceases to be a Member of the Church which issued the Certificate.

....., Pastor."

§ 4. A complete record of each transfer shall be kept on the stub in the Certificate book in the following form:

*Name of member requesting transfer.....
 Charge to which the Certificate is issued
 Date on which Certificate is issued.....
 Date of acknowledgment of Certificate and actual transfer of membership.....
 Name of Pastor or District Superintendent issuing Certificate
 Name of Pastor or District Superintendent acknowledging Certificate.*

§ 5. When a Pastor shall have received a member on said Certificate, he shall notify the Pastor of the Church from which it was issued on the blank form which accompanies Certificate, as provided in § 3.

§ 6. Whenever a Pastor is appointed to another Charge he may complete the record of his pastorate by entering in the Church Record opposite the names of the members of his family who are Church members: "Member of Pastor's family, transferred to"; and enter the names on the Record of his new Charge with the note: "Member of Pastor's family, transferred from"

¶ 56, § 1. A Certificate of Membership may not be refused, if demanded by a member removing his

residence, except for reasons that justify and require judicial proceedings against such member; but a Certificate of Membership shall not be given unless an actual change of the place of holding membership is intended.

§ 2. A Pastor may give a note of recommendation to any member who wishes to unite with any other Evangelical Denomination.

IV. Non-Resident Membership

¶ 57. If the residence of a member who has removed cannot be ascertained for one year, the words, "Removed without Certificate," shall be written opposite the name in the Record of Church Membership; and such name shall not be counted in the returns of statistics; but no member shall be so entered unless his post office address shall have been unknown to the Pastor for at least one year.

V. Withdrawals

¶ 58, § 1. When any member in good standing proposes to withdraw from the Methodist Episcopal Church he shall communicate his purpose in writing to the Pastor of the Church. On receiving such notice of withdrawal, the Pastor shall enter the fact of withdrawal upon the Record of Church Membership; and such withdrawal cannot be retracted except by consent of the Pastor and the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. Membership in the Church can be terminated only by the withdrawal, expulsion, or death of a member. A member of the Church who has united with another denomination without a Note

of Recommendation shall be recorded as "Withdrawn."

VI. Classes and Class Meetings

¶ 59. The design of the organization of Classes and the appointment of Leaders is:

§ 1. To establish a system of pastoral oversight that shall effectively reach every member of the Church.

§ 2. To establish and maintain such a meeting for social and religious worship, for instruction, encouragement, and admonition, as shall be a profitable means of grace to the Church.

§ 3. To aid, when desired, in carrying out the Financial Plan of the Church.

¶ 60, § 1. The primary object of distributing the members of the Church into Classes is to secure the subpastoral oversight made necessary by our itinerant economy.

§ 2. Let the Classes, wherever practicable, be composed of not more than twenty persons, and let the Leader report at each Quarterly Conference the condition of his Class as follows:

1. Number of Members in the Class.
2. Number of Probationers.
3. Average attendance.
4. Number habitually absent.
5. Number of Class Meetings held.
6. Number who contribute to the support of the Church.
7. Number of visits made.
8. Number of heads of families in the Class, and the number who observe family worship.

9. Number of Church papers taken by Class members.

10. Miscellaneous matters.

§ 3. Let each Leader be careful to inquire how every member of his Class prospers; not only how each person outwardly observes the Rules, but also how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

§ 4. Let the Leaders converse with their Pastors frequently and freely.

¶ 61. In the arrangement of Class Meetings two or more Classes may meet together and be conducted according to such plan as shall be agreed upon by the Leaders in concurrence with the Pastor.

¶ 62. Let care be observed that Class Meetings do not fall into formality through the use of a uniform method. Let speaking be voluntary or the exercises conversational, the Leader taking such measures as best may assist in making the services fresh, spiritual, and of permanent religious profit.

¶ 63, § 1. In order to render Class Meetings interesting and profitable, let the Pastor remove improper Leaders and see that all the Leaders are of sound judgment and truly devoted to God.

§ 2. Let the Leaders be directed to such a course of reading and study as best shall qualify them for their work. Especially let such books be recommended as will tend to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures and make them familiar with those passages best adapted to spiritual instruction. Whenever practicable let the Pastors examine the Leaders in the studies recommended.

NOTE.—For the Course of Study for Class Leaders, see Appendix.

CHAPTER II

SPECIAL ADVICES

I. Slavery

¶ 64. We declare that we are as much as ever convinced of the great evil of Slavery. We believe that the buying, selling, or holding of human beings as chattels is contrary to the laws of God and nature, and inconsistent with the Golden Rule, and with that Rule in our Discipline which requires all who desire to continue among us to "do no harm," and to "avoid evil of every kind." We therefore affectionately admonish all our Ministers and people to keep themselves pure from this great evil, and to seek its extirpation by all lawful and Christian means.

II. Dress

¶ 65. Let all our people be exhorted to conform to the spirit of the apostolic precept, not to adorn themselves "with gold, or pearls, or costly array" (1 Tim. 2. 9).

III. Marriage

¶ 66, § 1. We do not prohibit our people from marrying persons who are not of our Church, provided such persons have the form, and are seeking the power, of godliness; but we are determined to

discourage their marrying persons who do not come up to this description. Many of our members have married unawakened persons. This has produced bad effects; they either have been hindered for life, or have turned back to perdition.

§ 2. To discourage such marriages, 1. Let every Minister publicly enforce the Apostle's caution, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6. 14). 2. Let all be exhorted to take no step in so weighty a matter without advising with the more serious of their brethren.

§ 3. In general, a woman ought not to marry without the consent of her parents. Yet there may be exceptions. For if, 1. A woman believes it to be her duty to marry; if, 2. Her parents absolutely refuse to let her marry any Christian; then she may, nay, ought to marry without their consent. Yet even then a Methodist Minister ought not to be married to her.

IV. Divorce

¶ 67. No divorce, except for adultery, shall be regarded by the Church as lawful; and no Minister shall solemnize marriage in any case where there is a divorced wife or husband living; but this rule shall not be applied to the innocent party to a divorce for the cause of adultery, nor to divorced parties seeking to be reunited in marriage.

V. Amusements

¶ 68. Improper amusements and excessive indulgence in innocent amusements are serious barriers to the beginning of the religious life and fruitful

causes of spiritual decline. Some amusements in common use are positively demoralizing and furnish the first easy steps to the total loss of character. We therefore look with deep concern on the great increase of amusements and on the general prevalence of harmful amusements, and lift up a solemn note of warning and entreaty particularly against theater-going, dancing, and such games of chance as are frequently associated with gambling; all of which have been found to be antagonistic to vital piety, promotive of worldliness, and especially pernicious to youth. We affectionately admonish all our people to make their amusements the subject of careful thought and frequent prayer, to study the subject of amusements in the light of their tendencies, and to be scrupulously careful in this matter to set no injurious example. We adjure them to remember that often the question for a Christian must be, not whether a certain course of action is positively immoral, but whether it will dull the spiritual life and be an unwise example. We direct all our Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to call attention to this subject with solemn urgency in our Annual and Quarterly Conferences and in all our pulpits; and our Editors, Sunday School Officers, Epworth League Officers, and Class Leaders, to aid in abating the evils we deplore. We deem it our bounden duty to summon the whole Church to apply a thoughtful and instructed conscience to the choice of amusements, and not to leave them to accident, or taste, or passion; and we affectionately advise and beseech every member of the Church absolutely to avoid "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

VI. Temperance

¶ 69. Temperance, in its broader meaning, is distinctively a Christian virtue, enjoined in the Holy Scriptures. It requires the subordination of all the emotions, passions, and appetites to the control of reason and conscience. Dietetically, it means a wise use of suitable articles of food and drink, with entire abstinence from such as are known to be hurtful. Both science and human experience agree with the Holy Scriptures in condemning all alcoholic beverages as being neither useful nor safe. The business of manufacturing and of vending such liquors is also against the principles of morality, political economy, and the public welfare. We therefore regard voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants as the obligation of the citizen and the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil government. We heartily approve all lawful and Christian efforts to save society from the manifold and grievous evils resulting from intemperance, and earnestly advise our people to coöperate with all measures which may seem to them wisely adapted to secure that end. We refer to our General Rule on this subject (¶ 30), and affectionately urge its strict observance by all our members. Finally, we are fully persuaded that, under God, hope for the ultimate success of the Temperance Reform rests chiefly upon the combined and sanctified influence of the Family, the Church, and the State.

VII. Christian Stewardship

¶ 70. The following principles concerning Christian Stewardship should be fully recognized by the

individual Christian: God is the giver and the absolute owner of all things; and under grace man is a steward, who holds and administers as a sacred trust that which he possesses. Such responsibility and stewardship are best recognized by the systematic application of a portion of income to the advancement of the Kingdom of God. Sacred history suggests the dedication of a tenth of the income as a minimum requirement, and declares the Divine sanction of such practice.

There should be, therefore, such careful, intelligent, and prayerful consideration of the uses to be made of the money so dedicated as will involve the study, not only of local conditions, but also of the missionary and other benevolent work of the Church.

The following course may be pursued profitably by the individual Christian: Let there be set aside such a proportion of income as shall comply with the foregoing principles; let a pledge be given in writing of the amount to be applied to the regular work of the Church, and let weekly payment of the amounts so subscribed be made as an act of worship at one of the public services of the Church. Out of the amounts so set aside, but not previously pledged, let payment to special causes be made from time to time; and let those who cannot attend the services of the Church keep a fund to be known as the "Lord's Treasury," to be disbursed as faithful stewards, and let all, as opportunity shall be given, make freewill or thank offerings to the Lord.

CHAPTER III

WORSHIP

I. Order of Public Worship

¶ 71, § 1. Let all services begin exactly at the time appointed, and let the people kneel in silent prayer on entering the sanctuary.

I. [VOLUNTARY, instrumental or vocal.]¹

II. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

III. [THE APOSTLES' CREED, recited by all, standing.]

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church—the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.]

IV. PRAYER, concluding with the LORD'S PRAYER, repeated audibly by all, both Minister and People kneeling.

V. [ANTHEM, or VOLUNTARY.]

¹ Parts inclosed in brackets may be used or omitted.

VI. LESSON from the OLD TESTAMENT, which may be read responsively, the People standing.

VII. [The GLORIA PATRI:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.]

VIII. LESSON from the NEW TESTAMENT.

IX. NOTICES, followed by COLLECTION; during or after which an Offertory may be rendered.

X. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XI. The SERMON.

XII. PRAYER, the People kneeling.

XIII. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XIV. DOXOLOGY and the APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION. (2 Cor. 13. 14.)

§ 2. At the service during which the Sacraments are administered any of the items of the preceding order may be omitted except singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

§ 3. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to take part in the public worship of God: first, by singing; secondly, by prayer, in the scriptural attitude of kneeling, and by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

II. The Spirit and Truth of Singing

¶ 72. To guard against formality in singing:

§ 1. Choose such hymns as are proper for the occasion, and do not sing too much at once; seldom more than four or five stanzas.

§ 2. Let the tune be suited to the sentiment, and do not suffer the people to sing too slowly.

§ 3. In every Congregation let due attention be given to the cultivation of sacred music.

§ 4. Should the Pastor desire it, let the Quarterly Conference appoint annually a Committee of three or more of which the Pastor shall be chairman, which, coöperating with him, shall regulate all matters relating to this part of divine worship. The action of said Committee shall be subject in every respect to the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 5. As singing is a part of divine worship in which all ought to unite, therefore exhort every person in the Congregation to sing.

PART II

CONFERENCES

- I. GENERAL CONFERENCE
 - II. ANNUAL CONFERENCES
 - III. LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES
 - IV. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES
 - V. MISSION CONFERENCES
 - VI. DISTRICT CONFERENCES
 - VII. QUARTERLY CONFERENCES
 - VIII. OFFICIAL BOARD
 - IX. LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING
- [For JUDICIAL CONFERENCE, see ¶ 283]

CHAPTER I

GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Composition Organization, Powers, and Restrictions of the General Conference are set forth in the CONSTITUTION of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, ¶¶ 34-47.

CHAPTER II

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. Number and Organization

¶ 73, § 1. There are now one hundred and thirty-three Annual Conferences, and these shall become severally bodies corporate, wherever practicable, under the authority of the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds they are located.

§ 2. For the purpose of representation on the Book Committee, the General Committee, the Administrative Boards, and Committees in the General Conference the Annual Conferences shall be grouped into as many General Conference Districts as the General Conference from time to time shall determine. For the present grouping, see Appendix, ¶ 538.

¶ 74. All Members of an Annual Conference and those on Trial therein shall attend its sessions.

¶ 75. The Bishops shall appoint the times for holding the Annual Conferences; but they shall allow each Annual Conference to sit one week at least.

¶ 76. Each Annual Conference shall appoint the place of its own session; but should it become necessary, from any unforeseen cause, to change the place

of its session after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Pastor or Pastors in the place where the Conference was appointed to be held, and the District Superintendent, shall have power to make such change. But this authority shall not be exercised without first consulting the other District Superintendents of the Conference so far as practicable.

¶ 77. A Bishop shall preside in the Annual Conference. In case no Bishop is present, a member of the Conference, appointed by the Bishop, shall preside. But if no appointment be made, or if the person appointed shall not attend, the Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a President from among the Elders.

¶ 78. A record of the proceedings of each Annual Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and shall be signed by the President and Secretary; and a copy of said record shall be sent to the General Conference for examination. Journals not properly attested cannot be approved by the General Conference.

II. Order of Business

¶ 79. The business of the Annual Conference is to inquire:

§ 1. Is this Annual Conference Incorporated according to the requirement of the Discipline?

§ 2. Who have been Received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?

§ 3. Who have been Readmitted?

NOTE—Enter date of Location and the Conference which granted it.

§ 4. Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches?

§ 5. Who have been Received on Trial?

(a) In studies of First Year.

(b) In studies of Third Year. ¶ 173, § 2.

§ 6. Who have been Continued on Trial?

(a) In studies of First Year.

(b) In studies of Second Year.

(c) In studies of Third Year.

(d) In studies of Fourth Year.

§ 7. Who have been Discontinued?

§ 8. Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?

(a) Elected and ordained Deacons this year.

(b) Elected and ordained Deacons previously.

§ 9. What Members are in studies of Third Year?

(a) Admitted into Full Membership this year.

(b) Admitted into Full Membership previously.

§ 10. What Members are in studies of Fourth Year?

§ 11. What Members have completed the Conference Course of Study?

(a) Elected and ordained Elders this year.

(b) Elected and ordained Elders previously.

§ 12. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?

(a) As Local Preachers. ¶ 173, § 1.

(b) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 173, § 4.

(c) Under Seminary Rule. ¶ 173, § 2.

§ 13. What others have been elected and ordained Elders?

(a) As Local Deacons. ¶ 176, § 1.

(b) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 176, § 4.

(c) Under Seminary Rule. ¶ 176, § 3.

§ 14. Was the character of each Preacher examined?

§ 15. Who have been Transferred, and to what Conferences?

§ 16. Who have Died?

§ 17. Who have been Located at their own request?

§ 18. Who have been Located?

§ 19. Who have Withdrawn?

§ 20. Who have been permitted to Withdraw under Charges or Complaints?

§ 21. Who have been Expelled?

§ 22. What other Personal Notation should be made?

NOTE.—Enter with adequate statement of facts, the names of (1) Those whose Orders have been recognized without admission to the Annual Conference. (2) Those whose Credentials have been restored. (3) Those formerly expelled, but now restored by the action of a Judicial Conference or of the General Conference.

§ 23. Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation?

§ 24. Who are the Retired Ministers?

§ 25. Who are the Triers of Appeals?

§ 26. Have the provisions of the Discipline concerning the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension been carried out?

§ 27. Have the provisions of the Discipline concerning the Conference Board of Foreign Missions been carried out?

§ 28. What is the Statistical Report?

§ 29. What is the Conference Treasurer's Report?

§ 30. What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

§ 31. What are the claims on the Conference Fund?

§ 32. What has been received on these claims, and how has it been applied?

§ 33. What is five per cent of the amount raised for the support of Conference Claimants, and paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Conference Claimants for Connectional Relief?

§ 34. What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the Support of Conference Claimants?

§ 35. Where are the Preachers stationed?

§ 36. Where shall the next Conference be held?

III. Powers and Duties

¶ 80. An Annual Conference has power to hear complaints against its members, and may try, reprove, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel or acquit any of them against whom charges may be preferred. ¶¶ 243-260.

¶ 81. The Election and, so far as it is practicable, the Ordination of Elders and Deacons should be done at the Annual Conference. ¶¶ 171-178.

¶ 82. Each Annual Conference shall appoint annually for each District a District Board of Church Location and Erection, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 429.

¶ 83. Each Annual Conference shall carefully meet the obligations laid upon it in connection with all our benevolent causes.

¶ 84. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 382, § 1.

¶ 85. In each Annual Conference, the Bishop presiding shall inquire of each Pastor if he has carried out the Disciplinary plan for the support of the ministry and the benevolent causes; and of each District Superintendent, if he has required the pro rata distribution of the moneys received for Ministerial Support and has urged in the Quarterly Conferences the collection in full for all the benevolent causes.

IV. Statistician and Treasurer

¶ 86. That the Statistics may be accurately reported and the Benevolent Collections duly accounted for, let the following rules be observed:

§ 1. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Statistician and a Conference Treasurer, whose names and addresses shall be printed in the General Minutes at the head of its Statistical Tables and also in the Methodist Year Book.

§ 2. On the first day of the Conference session each Pastor shall present his Statistical and Financial Reports, correctly and plainly written, all collections and other moneys being reported in dollars only, without fractions thereof.

§ 3. In connection with his report of the amount collected for each benevolent cause, the Pastor shall deliver to the Conference Treasurer either the money thus collected or a satisfactory voucher for the same; and the credit given to his Pastoral Charge shall correspond exactly with the money and vouchers thus delivered.

§ 4. At the opening of the second day's session the Bishop presiding shall call upon the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer respectively to read the

names of all Pastoral Charges from which reports have not been received, or from which incorrect or defective reports have been received. This call shall be made at the beginning of each day's session until correct reports have been received from every Pastoral Charge.

§ 5. In case any Pastoral Charge fail to make a report the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer shall insert the report for the preceding year and shall indicate this fact by placing the figures in brackets.

§ 6. When the name of a Pastoral Charge has been changed the Statistician and Conference Treasurer shall print the former name in parentheses under the present name.

§ 7. The Conference Treasurer shall receive and account for such other moneys, additional to the regular benevolent collections, as the Conference may direct; and an Auditing Committee, appointed by the Conference, shall audit his accounts.

§ 8. When the provisions of §§ 2 and 3 shall have been complied with the Conference Treasurer shall return the "Conference Treasurer's Report" to the Pastor, with the word "Credited" either written or stamped over the Treasurer's signature, as a voucher to be delivered by the Pastor to the Quarterly Conference of the contributing Charge.

NOTE.—The Pastor's Summary Report (¶180, § 3) is a *private* report furnished by each pastor to his District Superintendent, for Cabinet uses, only. Do not hand to the Statistician or to Conference Treasurer.

¶ 87, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall provide, (1) Statistical Blanks for the Pastor and Statistician; (2) Treasurer's Blanks for the Pastor and Conference Treasurer, together with suitable envelopes;

(3) Blanks for the Statistician's and the Conference Treasurer's Accounts.

§ 2. Application for blanks for distribution among the Pastors and for the Statistician's and Conference Treasurer's Accounts should be made to The Methodist Book Concern, New York, by the Secretaries of the Annual Conferences. Orders for the *Spring Conferences* should be made by October first, and will be filled by December first. Orders for the *Fall Conferences* should be made by March first and will be filled by June first. Applications should state the name of the Annual Conference, the number of Districts, the number of Pastoral Charges and how many Districts have more than fifty Pastoral Charges.

¶ 88, § 1. The Statistical Report of the Pastor to the Annual Conference shall be presented according to the form prescribed in ¶ 89.

§ 2. The several Annual Conferences shall publish both the Statistical Report (except the "Sunday School Statistics," which are prepared for the use of the Sunday School Board) and the Conference Treasurer's Report.

§ 3. The Statisticians and Treasurers of the Conferences and Missions shall forward their Reports to the Publishing Agent at New York as soon after adjournment as practicable. The Statisticians also shall send the "Sunday School Statistics" to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, Chicago.

§ 4. The amount raised for "Ministerial Support" shall include the several sums raised for the support of the Pastor, the support of Conference Claimants, the support of the District Superintendent, and the support of the Bishops; also house rent paid for the

Pastor; or in case the Pastor occupies a parsonage, a sum equal to a fair rental value of the parsonage. Missionary appropriations should not be included. If desired, separate columns may be used for House Rent and for Traveling Expenses.

§ 5. Non-resident Members shall not be reckoned in making apportionments. ¶ 57.

§ 6. "Baptized Children" shall not be counted as "Probationers" in making reports of membership.

¶ 89. The Statistical Report shall be in the following form:

§ 1. STATISTICAL REPORT

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

Support of Pastor

Total Claim, including House Rent..

Total Paid, including House Rent.

Deficiency.

Support of District Superintendent

Claim.

Paid.

Support of Bishops

Claim.

Paid.¹

Support of Conference Claimants

Claim.

Paid.¹

Total Paid for Ministerial Support.

Total Deficiency.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Sunday Schools.

Officers and Teachers.

Total Enrollment in all Departments.

¹ From Conference Treasurer's Report, ¶ 90.

BAPTISMS

Adults Baptized.

Children Baptized.

Baptized Children who are under Instruction as Probationers.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Probationers

Enrolled during the Year.

Now on the Roll.

Full Members

Members on Roll.

Non-resident Members. ¶ 57.

Local Preachers.

Deaths during Year.

EPWORTH LEAGUE

Senior Members.

Junior Members.

CHURCH PROPERTY

Churches.

Estimated Value.

Parsonages.

Estimated Value.

Paid for Buildings and Improvements on Churches and Parsonages.

Paid on Old Indebtedness on Churches and Parsonages.

Present Indebtedness on Churches and Parsonages.

Current Expenses—Sexton, Fuel, Light, etc.

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXPENSES

Apportioned for the Quadrennium.

Paid this Year.

Balance Due for the Quadrennium.

§ 2. SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS

See ¶ 88, §§ 2, 3

Sunday Schools.

Officers and Teachers.

Total Enrollment in All Departments; including
Cradle Roll, Home Department, Officers, Teachers,
and Scholars.

Average Attendance of all Grades.

Members in the Home Department.

Children on the Cradle Roll.

Officers and Teachers who are Church Members or
Probationers.Scholars, including the Home Department, who are
Church Members or Probationers.Members of Sunday School Converted during the
Conference Year.

Sunday School Expenses: Lesson Leaves, Books, etc.

¶ 90. The Report to the Conference Treasurer shall
be made in the following form:

CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT

DISCIPLINARY BENEVOLENCES

Board of Foreign Missions

Church.

Special Gifts.

Sunday Schools.

Board of Home Missions and Church Extension

Church.

Special Gifts.

Sunday Schools.

Freedmen's Aid Society.

Education

Board of Education

Public Educational Collection.

Children's Day Fund.

Conference Educational Collection.

Board of Sunday Schools

Church.

Sunday Schools.

Conference Claimants

Board of Conference Claimants

Annual Conference Investments.

Church Temperance Society.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Woman's Home Missionary Society.

American Bible Society.

City Missionary or Church Extension Society.

Central Office Expenses of Epworth League.

Methodist Brotherhood Dues.

Total Disciplinary Benevolences.

OTHER BENEVOLENCES

Hospital.

.....

.....

.....

Total Benevolences.

OTHER CASH ITEMS

Support of Conference Claimants.¹Support of Bishops.¹

General Conference Expenses.

Total.

¹ To Statistician's Report, ¶ 89.

CHAPTER III.

LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES

The Composition, Organization, and Powers of the Lay Electoral Conference are set forth in the Constitution of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, Article III, ¶¶ 39-47.

I. Election of Delegates

¶ 91, § 1. The first or third Quarterly Conference of each Charge for the Conference year within which a Lay Electoral Conference is to be convened shall appoint one Judge of Election and two Tellers, who shall constitute the Election Board of the Charge; provided the said Charge be composed of but one Church. The Election Board shall fix the time and place for the holding of an election for one Lay Delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference and one Reserve Lay Delegate in accordance with the provisions of Division III of the Constitution of the Church.

§ 2. The Election Board shall see that suitable public notice of the time and place of the election shall be given, public announcement of the same being made at two regular preaching services at least, on different days, within the six weeks immediately preceding the election. It shall take charge of the election, receive and count the ballots, and certify the whole number of votes cast and for whom cast to the fourth Quarterly Conference, which shall declare the result and give to the person receiving the highest number of votes for each place a certificate of elec-

tion, which shall be signed by the District Superintendent and the Secretary of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 3. In every Pastoral Charge which consists of more than one Church or Society the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Judge of Election and two Tellers for each of such Churches or Societies, and each of such Boards shall proceed as is provided for the Election Board of a single Church. The Quarterly Conference shall proceed in the same manner as is provided for Pastoral Charges having but one Church or Society.

§ 4. When duly convened for the election, in case of the absence of one or more members of the Election Board the lay members assembled shall have power to fill vacancies.

§ 5. The Secretary of the fourth Quarterly Conference shall certify the result of the ballot without delay to the Secretary of the preceding Lay Electoral Conference, or to any other person designated by said Conference to prepare the roll of the ensuing Lay Electoral Conference. Said certificate shall contain the names of the Lay Delegate and of the Reserve Lay Delegate elected, the post office of each and the name of the Pastoral Charge.

II. Laymen's Associations

¶ 92. There may be assembled at the seat of the Annual Conference a Laymen's Association organized within the bounds of the Conference, composed of Delegates selected from the Charges in such manner as the Laymen's Association may determine. The

purpose of such Association shall be to advance the local and Conference interests of the Church and to enlist all laymen in the general activities of the denomination.

CHAPTER IV

CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 93, § 1. When in any of our foreign Mission fields there is more than one Annual Conference or Mission, if ordered by the General Conference it shall be lawful to organize a Central Conference, to be composed either of all the Members of those Annual Conferences or Missions, or of Delegates from the same, elected according to such ratio as may be agreed upon between the constituent parties, who may also provide for the admission of Laymen to such Conference, the number of Lay Delegates not to exceed that of the Clerical Delegates.

§ 2. The first meeting of the Central Conference shall be called by the Bishop in charge, at such time and place as he may select, to which all the Members of the Conferences and Missions concerned shall be invited, and at which a ratio of representation shall be fixed by the Conference. The time and place of future meetings shall be determined by the Central Mission Conference; provided, that it shall meet at least once in four years.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop, if present, shall preside over a Central Mission Conference; but in his absence the Conference shall elect a President from among its own Members. Missionary Bishops have equal rights and privileges

¶ 93 CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

with General Superintendents in the sessions of the Central Mission Conferences with which they are connected.

§ 4. A Central Conference may take under its supervision the educational, publishing, and other connec-tional interests which may have been committed to it by the Annual Conferences and Missions; but never in contravention of the Book of Discipline, or the orders of the General Conference; and it shall have no authority to involve the Board of Foreign Missions in any financial responsibility, nor to hold or control the property of the Board without the official permission of said Board.

§ 5. In the Central Conference the right shall be reserved to vote by Conferences or Missions when-ever the Delegations from one third of the several Conferences or Missions represented shall so demand. In such cases the concurrent vote of the Delegations from two thirds of all the Conferences and Missions present and voting shall be necessary to complete an action.

§ 6. A Central Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, proposals for changes first having been submitted to the Annual Conferences concerned as prescribed in ¶¶ 482-484, provided, however, that the number of Annual Conferences which may be organized within the bounds of a Central Conference shall first have been determined by the General Conference; and provided, further, that no Conference shall be organized with less than twenty-five Members.

§ 7. When a Central Conference has been duly or-ganized it shall not be discontinued except by order or consent of the General Conference.

§ 8. The Journal of the proceedings of a Central Mission Conference, duly signed by the President and Secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference.

§ 9. The Central Conference of Southern Asia is authorized to fix the residences of the Missionary Bishops for Southern Asia.

CHAPTER V

MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 94, § 1. Any Mission established under the provisions of the Discipline may be constituted a Mission Conference by the General Conference.

§ 2. A Mission Conference is authorized to exercise the powers of an Annual Conference subject to the approval of the presiding Bishop; and its Members shall share *pro rata* in the proceeds of the Book Concern with Members of the Annual Conferences, but they shall not elect delegates to the General Conference nor vote on Constitutional changes.

§ 3. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission Conference may appoint a Superintendent, who may also be the District Superintendent where there are two or more Districts. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to take the general supervision of the Conference, and yet not so as to interfere with the duties of the District Superintendents; and to represent the state of the work and its needs to the Bishop having charge, and to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Board immediately concerned.

§ 4. If there is no Bishop present at an Annual Session of a Mission Conference, the Superintendent shall preside; but if there is no Superintendent present, the presidency shall be determined as in an Annual Conference. ¶ 77.

§ 5. Each Mission Conference or Mission at its Annual Session shall appoint a Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be, with the concurrence of the President of the Conference, to make an estimate of the amount necessary for the support of each Pastoral Charge, either in full or supplementary to the amount raised by the Charge. Such estimates shall be subject to modification by the managers of the Missionary Board immediately concerned, and in the aggregate shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the General Missionary Committee.

§ 6. A Charge within a Mission Conference may receive aid from the Missionary Board without having been designated in the estimates made by the Conference at its Annual Meeting.

[For Missions, see ¶¶ 410, 431.]

CHAPTER VI

DISTRICT CONFERENCES

I. Organization and Duties

¶ 95. The District Conference shall be composed of the traveling Ministers, the Local Preachers, the

Exhorters and the District Stewards within the District, together with one Sunday School Superintendent, one President of an Epworth League Chapter, one President of a Methodist Brotherhood, one President of a Ladies' Aid Society, one Class Leader, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society from each Pastoral Charge in the District; also any lay member of our Church sent to any of our Foreign Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who are Members of a Quarterly Conference within the District. But if there shall be in any Charge more than one Sunday School Superintendent, Class Leader, Epworth League President, Methodist Brotherhood President, President of the Ladies' Aid Society, President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, or President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, then the Quarterly Conference shall designate one of each for this service.

¶ 96. The District Conference shall meet once or twice each year as it may determine. The District Superintendent shall designate the time and place for the first meeting after the adoption of this plan by the District; but the District Conference shall at each meeting determine the place for its next meeting, the time to be fixed by the District Superintendent.

¶ 97. If a Bishop be present at the District Conference, he shall preside. In the absence of a Bishop the District Superintendent shall preside. If neither be present, the District Conference shall choose its

own President by ballot, without debate, from among the Traveling Elders.

¶98. A record of the proceedings of each District Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and a copy of said record shall be sent to the ensuing Annual Conference.

¶99. The regular business of the District Conference shall be:

§1. To take the general oversight of all the temporal and spiritual affairs of the District, subject to the provisions of the Discipline.

§2. To take supervision of all the Local Preachers and Exhorters in the District, as provided in ¶¶ 213-221, and to arrange a plan of appointments for each until the next District Conference.

§3. To inquire if the support of the Ministry and all the collections for the benevolent institutions of the Church, as recognized by the Discipline, have received proper attention in all the Pastoral Charges, and, if necessary, to adopt suitable measures for promoting them.

§4. To inquire into the condition of the Sunday Schools in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§5. To inquire into the condition of the Epworth League Chapters in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§6. To inquire into the condition of the Methodist Brotherhoods in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§7. To inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§8. To inquire into the condition of the auxil-

aries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 9. To inquire respecting opportunities for Missionary and Church Extension enterprises within the District, and to provide for any neglected portion of its territory by the establishment of Mission Sunday Schools or by appointments for Public Worship.

§ 10. To provide appropriate religious and literary exercises during the session.

II. Order of Business

¶ 100. The order of business for the District Conference shall be:

§ 1. To inquire what members of the District Conference are present.

§ 2. To appoint Committees on

1. Examination of candidates for License to Preach.
2. Examination of Local Preachers in each of the four years of the Course of Study.
3. Examination of candidates for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference.
4. Examination of candidates for Orders.
5. Home Mission work.
6. Appointments of Local Preachers and Exhorters.
7. Apportionment to each Charge of the amounts to be raised for benevolent causes.
8. Program of religious and literary exercises for the next meeting.
9. Miscellaneous matters.

- § 3. To receive Reports:
1. From the District Superintendent, as to the condition of the work under his charge, and concerning his own work as District Superintendent.
 2. From each Pastor, as to the religious condition of his Charge, his pastoral labors, the benevolent collections and the circulation of our Church periodicals and books.
 3. From each Local Preacher, according to the form prescribed in ¶ 217.
 4. From each Exhorter, including a statement of the Prayer Meetings he has held, and other work done, especially in destitute places and among the sick and the poor. ¶ 221.
 5. From each District Steward, as to the temporal affairs of the Charge he represents.
 6. From each Sunday School Superintendent, as to the condition of the Sunday Schools of the Charge he represents.
 7. From each President of an Epworth League Chapter, as to the condition of the Chapters of the Charge he represents.
 8. From each President of the Methodist Brotherhood, as to the condition of the Chapters of the Charge he represents.
 9. From each President of a Ladies' Aid Society, as to the condition of the Societies of the Charge she represents.
 10. From each Class Leader, as to the condition of the Classes of the Charge he represents.

11. From the President of each Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, as to the condition of the Auxiliary she represents.

12. From each Committee.

§ 4. To inquire concerning Local Preachers:

1. Are there any Charges or formulated Complaints?
2. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
3. Who shall be Licensed to Preach?
4. Who shall be recommended for Ordination?
5. Who shall be recommended for Recognition of Orders?
6. Who shall be recommended for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference?
7. What work is assigned to each Local Preacher?

§ 5. To inquire concerning Exhorters:

1. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
2. What work is assigned to each Exhorter?

§ 6. To fix the seat of the next District Conference.

§ 7. To transact other appropriate business.

§ 8. The order of business may be varied, and the business interspersed with such literary and religious exercises as the District Conference may direct.

III. Discontinuance

¶ 101. The provisions for District Conferences shall be of force and binding only in those Districts in which the Quarterly Conferences of a majority of the Pastoral Charges shall have approved the same by asking the District Superintendent to convene a District Conference, as herein provided. A

District Conference may be discontinued by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular session, notice thereof having been given at a previous session, with the concurrence of a majority of the Quarterly Conferences in the District.

CHAPTER VII

QUARTERLY CONFERENCES

I. Organization and Duties

¶ 102. The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Class Leaders, Trustees, first Superintendents of Sunday Schools, Presidents of Epworth League Chapters, Superintendents of Junior Leagues, Presidents of Chapters of the Methodist Brotherhood, Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, and Deaconesses employed within the charge; provided, that said Class Leaders, Trustees, Superintendents, Presidents, and Deaconesses are members of our Church in the Charge, and are approved by the Quarterly Conference for membership therein; also any lay member of the Church sent to any of our Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions, or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who is assigned to said Quarterly Conference and regularly appointed to definite work by the Bishop in charge.

¶ 103, § 1. The District Superintendent shall pre-

side in the Quarterly Conference; or, he may appoint a Traveling Elder to preside. In the absence of the District Superintendent, and of the Traveling Elder so appointed, the Pastor shall preside.

§ 2. The Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Secretary, who shall take minutes of the proceedings thereof, and transmit them to the Recording Steward.

¶ 104, § 1. In those Districts in which District Conferences shall be held the powers given to the District Conferences shall not be exercised by the Quarterly Conferences. In all other cases the powers of the Quarterly Conferences shall remain as hereinafter provided.

¶ 105. The regular business of the Quarterly Conference shall be:

§ 1. To hear formulated complaints, and to receive and try charges as directed in ¶¶ 262-268.

§ 2. To take cognizance of all Local Preachers and Exhorters in the Circuit or Station, as provided in ¶¶ 213-217.

§ 3. To receive the annual report of the Trustees; to elect Trustees where the laws of the State permit; and, at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Trustees who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge, but who were elected otherwise than by the Quarterly Conferences.

§ 4. To elect Stewards for the Charge, and to elect one of these as District Steward and one as Recording Steward.

§ 5. To have oversight of all the Sunday Schools within the bounds of the Pastoral Charge, and to inquire into the condition of each; to confirm or reject Sunday School Superintendents nominated by

the Sunday School Board; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 6. To have general oversight of the Epworth League Chapters and other organizations of young people; to confirm or reject Presidents of the Epworth League elected by the Chapters, and Junior League Superintendents nominated by the Pastor; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Epworth League Presidents and Junior League Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Epworth League President or Junior League Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 7. To have general oversight of the Methodist Brotherhoods, and other organizations of similar character, to confirm or reject Presidents elected by them; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents who are members of the Church within the Charge; and to remove any President who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 8. To have general oversight of Ladies' Aid Societies and other organizations of similar designation and purpose; to confirm or reject Presidents elected by these Societies; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents who are members of the Church within the Charge; and to remove any President who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 9. To have general oversight of the Auxiliaries

of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society; and at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents of such auxiliaries who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge.

§ 10. To meet carefully all the obligations laid by the Discipline upon the Quarterly Conference in reference to the support of the Ministry and of the benevolent causes.

§ 11. To appoint at the fourth Quarterly Conference Committees for the ensuing Conference year on (1) Foreign Missions. (2) Home Missions and Church Extension. (3) Sunday Schools. (4) Tracts. (5) Temperance. (6) Education. (7) Freedmen's Aid. (8) Hospitals. (9) Church Records. (10) Auditing Accounts. (11) Parsonage and Furniture. (12) Church Music. (13) Estimating Ministerial Support. (14) Examination of Local Preachers.

II. Order of Business

¶ 106. The Order of Business in the Quarterly Conference, after the Roll of Members has been called and a Secretary appointed, shall be to inquire as follows:

NOTE.—Questions, or items under questions, marked thus [-1-] are to be considered at the first Quarterly Conference; those marked [-1, 2, 3-] at the first, second, and third Quarterly Conferences; those marked [-4-] at the fourth Quarterly Conference; all other questions and items at each Quarterly Conference.

§ 1. What Trustees are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference? ¶ 105, § 3.

§ 2. What Class Leaders are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference? ¶ 102.

to § 3. Who are confirmed—

1. As Sunday School Superintendents? ¶ 105,

§ 5.

2. As Presidents of Epworth Leagues? ¶ 105,

§ 6.

3. As Superintendents of Junior Leagues?

¶ 105, § 6.

4. As Presidents of Methodist Brotherhoods?

¶ 105, § 7.

5. As Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies?

¶ 105, § 8.

§ 4. Who are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference?

1. As Sunday School Superintendents. ¶ 105,

§ 5.

2. As Presidents of Epworth Leagues. ¶ 105,

§ 6.

3. As Superintendents of Junior Leagues.

¶ 105, § 6.

4. As Presidents of Methodist Brotherhoods.

¶ 105, § 7.

5. As Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies.

¶ 105, § 8.

6. As Presidents of the Auxiliaries of the

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

¶ 105, § 9.

7. As Presidents of the Auxiliaries of the

Woman's Home Missionary Society.

¶ 105, § 9.

8. As Deaconesses employed within the

Charge. ¶ 102.

§ 5. Are there any formulated complaints? ¶ 261-

268.

§ 6. [-4-] Who is appointed Trier of Appeals?
¶ 297, § 1.

§ 7. [-1-] What is the complete record for membership during the past year?

1. Members on the Roll and reported to last Conference.
2. Members Received after Recommendation.
3. Members Received by Certificate.
4. Members Received from Other Denominations.
5. Whole number received during year.
6. Total.
7. Members Dismissed by Certificate.
8. Members Deceased.
9. Members Removed without Letter.
10. Members Withdrawn.
11. Members Expelled.
12. Total to be deducted.
13. Net Membership on Roll.
14. Non-resident Members.
15. Probationers enrolled during the year.
16. Probationers now on the Roll.
17. Have acknowledgments been received from all Charges to which Certificates have been issued?
18. Have all Certificates received been acknowledged to the Charges which issued them?
19. Have Charges to which members have been removed without Letter been notified?
20. Have all known to have moved into this Charge with or without Letter been visited?
21. Have Certificates of Registration been issued

in the case of baptized children who have removed to another Pastoral Charge? ¶ 51.

§ 8. [-1-] What is the complete Record of Ministerial Support for the year?

1. Paid to Pastor.
2. Paid to Assistant.
3. Paid to Conference Claimants.
4. Paid to District Superintendent.
5. Paid to Episcopal Fund.

§ 9. Are there any Reports?

1. From Pastor. ¶ 180, § 1.
2. From Local Preachers. ¶ 217.
3. From Exhorters. ¶ 221.
4. From Sunday School Superintendents. ¶ 465, § 5.
5. From Presidents of Epworth League Chapters. ¶ 475.
6. From Superintendents of Junior Leagues.
7. From Presidents of Methodist Brotherhoods.
8. [-4-] From Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies. ¶ 368, § 2.
9. From Deaconesses employed within the Charge. ¶ 228, § 13.
10. From Class Leaders. ¶ 60, § 2.
11. [-4-] From Trustees. ¶ 340.
12. [-4-] From the Official Board. ¶ 109.
13. From Committees. ¶ 105, § 11.

§ 10. [-1-] What amounts have been estimated for, and apportioned to, this Charge this year for the support of the Ministry?

1. For Pastor.
2. For Assistant.
3. For Conference Claimants.
4. For District Superintendent.

5. For Episcopal Fund.

6. For Rent.

7. For Traveling and Moving Expenses.

§ 11. What is the Financial Plan adopted by the Stewards? ¶¶ 109, 312.

§ 12. Have the directions of the Discipline for raising supplies for the support of the Ministry been carried out? ¶¶ 313-316.

§ 13. Have the directions of the Discipline for the support of Conference Claimants been carried out, and has the *pro rata* division been made? ¶¶ 313, 314, 318, 321.

§ 14. What amounts have been received this quarter for the support of the Ministry, and how have they been applied?

Received:

1. For Pastors.

2. For Conference Claimants.

3. For District Superintendent.

4. For Episcopal Fund.

5. For Rent.

6. For Traveling and Moving Expenses.

Applied:

1. To Pastors.

2. To Conference Claimants.

3. To District Superintendent.

4. To Episcopal Fund.

5. To Rent.

6. To Traveling and Moving Expenses.

§ 15. [-1-] What amounts have been apportioned to this Charge this year for benevolent causes?

1. For Board of Foreign Missions.

2. For Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

3. For Freedmen's Aid Society.
 4. For Education: *For Board of Education.* a. Public Educational Collection. b. Children's Day Fund. *For Conference Educational Collection.*
 5. For Board of Sunday Schools: a. From Church. b. From Sunday Schools.
 6. For Other Purposes.
- § 16. [-4-] What amounts have been received for benevolent causes this year?
1. For Board of Foreign Missions: a. From Church. b. From Sunday Schools. c. From Special Gifts.
 2. For Board of Home Missions and Church Extension: a. From Church. b. From Sunday Schools. c. From Special Gifts.
 3. For Freedmen's Aid Society.
 4. For Education: *For Board of Education.* a. Public Educational Collection. b. Children's Day Fund. *For Conference Educational Collection.*
 5. For Board of Sunday Schools: a. From Church. b. From Sunday Schools.
 6. For Conference Claimants: a. *For Board of Conference Claimants.* b. *For Annual Conference Investments.*
 7. For Church Temperance Society.
 8. For Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
 9. For Woman's Home Missionary Society.
 10. For American Bible Society.
 11. For City Missionary or Church Extension Society.
 12. For Central Office Expenses of Epworth League.

§ 13. For Methodist Brotherhood Dues. ¶ 285, 286.

14. For Other Purposes. ¶ 287, 288.

§ 17. *a.* Are the Sunday Schools organized into Missionary Societies? ¶¶ 415, § 5; 435, § 3; 467.

b. Are they organized into Temperance Societies?

¶¶ 464, § 3; 479, § 6. *c.* Are Home Departments or-

ganized? *d.* Are they furnished with the publica-
tions authorized by our Church? ¶ 463, §§ 3, 4.

§ 18. Have the Rules respecting the Instruction of
Children been observed? ¶ 52.

§ 19. Who are licensed to preach, or recommended
to the District Conference for License to preach?

¶ 214.

§ 20. [-4-] Was the Character of each Local
Preacher, Exhorter, and Deaconess examined? ¶¶ 213,
221, 238.

§ 21. *a.* What Local Preachers and Exhorters are
recommended to the District Conference for renewal
of License? ¶¶ 214, 221.

b. [-4-] What Local Preachers and Exhorters
have had their licenses renewed? ¶¶ 214, 221.

§ 22. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended
for Orders? ¶ 214, § 3.

§ 23. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended
for the recognition of Orders? ¶¶ 162, § 2; 214, § 3.

§ 24. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended
for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference?
¶ 214, § 3.

§ 25. [-1, 2, 3-] Is any change desired in the Board
of Stewards? ¶ 105, § 4.

§ 26. [-4-] Who shall be the Stewards for the en-
suing Conference year? ¶¶ 105, § 4; 305.

§ 27. [-4-] Who shall be the Recording Steward?
¶ 305.

§ 28. [-4-] Who shall be the District Steward?
¶¶ 305, 310.

§ 29. [-4-] Who are the Trustees of Church and Parsonage property? ¶¶ 335-337.

§ 30. [-4-] What Committees are appointed for the ensuing Conference year? ¶ 105, § 11.

§ 31. [-4-] Have the General Rules been read this year? ¶ 179, § 4.

§ 32. [-4-] Have the questions prescribed in ¶ 455, § 2, been asked and answered?

§ 33. [-4-] Has the Pastor made a Visiting List, or Plan of his Charge, as required by the Discipline? ¶ 179, § 30.

§ 34. Are the Church Records properly kept? ¶ 108.

§ 35. [-4-] Have the Records of the Official Board been received and approved? ¶ 109.

§ 36. How much Insurance is carried on each item of Church Property? ¶¶ 185, § 9; 340.

§ 37. [-1-] Is the report of the Auditing Committee now ready? ¶ 107.

§ 38. Have the inquiries ordered in ¶ 185, §§ 11, 12, been duly made?

§ 39. Who are the Custodians of the Deeds and other legal papers affecting the Church property?

§ 40. Where shall the next Quarterly Conference be held?

§ 41. Is there any other Business?

III. Auditing and Records

¶ 107. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Auditing accounts to audit the books of the Recording Steward and the Treasurers of all the Boards or

organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Charge represented in the Quarterly Conference, and report the same in writing at the first Quarterly Conference.

¶ 108. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Church Records to examine the records of membership, the minutes of the Quarterly Conference, the records of the Trustees, and the records of all the boards or organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Pastoral Charge, represented in the Quarterly Conference, and to make a written report thereon at the fourth Quarterly Conference. When any of these books are filled and are no longer in use, they shall be deposited with the Recording Steward for preservation.

CHAPTER VIII

OFFICIAL BOARD

¶ 109. The Quarterly Conference of any Charge may organize and continue during its pleasure an Official Board, to be composed of all the members of the Quarterly Conference. In the case of circuits the Quarterly Conference may organize, and continue during its pleasure, Official Boards for the several appointments of the Charge, such Official Boards to be composed of the members of the Quarterly Conference attached to the respective appointments. The Official Board shall hold its meetings at such times as it may determine, and shall be presided over by the Pastor, or, in his absence, by a chairman elected by the meeting. When so organized the Official

¶ 110 LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING

Board may discharge such duties as the Quarterly Conference may direct from time to time, including those of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting. The Official Board may direct the Stewards and Trustees to submit to it annually the amount needed for Ministerial Support and for the current expenses of the Church, which aggregate amount shall be apportioned among the members of the Church and the attendants of the congregation, in such manner as shall seem to the Official Board to be wise. Should such action for a combined financial system be taken, the Board shall elect a Treasurer for the common fund, and such other officers and committees as it may desire, in order to carry out the plan. When such action is taken it shall make void such provisions of the Discipline, under Support of Ministers as relate to the financial duties of the stewards. ¶¶ 308, 310-318. The Board shall keep a record of its proceedings, and send the same to the fourth Quarterly Conference for approval.

CHAPTER IX

LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING

¶ 110. The Pastor, as often as practicable, shall hold a meeting of all the Leaders and Stewards of the Charge, to be denominated the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, in order to inquire, 1. Are there any sick? 2. Are there any requiring temporal relief? 3. Are there any who walk disorderly and will not be reproved? 4. Are there any who willfully neglect the means of grace? 5. Are any changes to be made

in the classes? 6. Are there any persons to be recommended for admission into the Church? 7. Are there any to be recommended for License to exhort or preach? 8. What amount has been received for the support of the Pastor or Pastors? 9. Is there any miscellaneous business?

in the class? 6. Are there any persons to be recommended for admission into the Church? 7. Are there any to be recommended for license to preach or preach? 8. What amount has been received for the support of the Pastor or Pastors? 9. Is there any other business?

- I. QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK
- II. MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- III. DEACONS

PART III

- IV. ELDERS
- V. PASTORS
- VI. SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS
- VII. RETIRED BISHOPS
- VIII. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS
- IX. MISSIONARY BISHOPS
- X. BISHOPS
- XI. RETIRED BISHOPS

- I. QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK
- II. MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES
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- V. PASTORS
- VI. SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS
- VII. RETIRED MINISTERS
- VIII. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS
- IX. MISSIONARY BISHOPS
- X. BISHOPS
- XI. RETIRED BISHOPS

CHAPTER I

QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK

I. Call to Preach

¶ 111. In order that we may try those persons who profess to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach let the following questions be asked, namely:

§ 1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? Are they holy in all manner of conversation?

§ 2. Have they gifts, as well as grace, for the work? Have they, in some tolerable degree, a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? Has God given them any degree of utterance? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?

§ 3. Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by their preaching?

§ 4. As long as these marks concur in anyone, we believe he is called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that he is moved by the Holy Ghost.

II. Rules for a Preacher's Conduct

¶ 112. *Rule 1.* Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away

¶ 113 QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK

time; neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary.

¶ 113. *Rule 2.* Be serious. Let your motto be, "Holiness to the Lord." Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talking.

¶ 114. *Rule 3.* Converse sparingly and conduct yourself prudently with women (1 Tim. 5. 2).

¶ 115. *Rule 4.* Believe evil of no one without good evidence; unless you see it done take heed how you credit it. Put the best construction on everything. You know the judge is always supposed to be on the prisoner's side.

¶ 116. *Rule 5.* Speak evil of no one, because your word, especially, would eat as doth a canker. Keep your thoughts within your own breast till you come to the person concerned.

¶ 117. *Rule 6.* Tell everyone under your care what you think wrong in his conduct and temper, and that lovingly and plainly, as soon as may be; else it will fester in your heart. Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom.

¶ 118. *Rule 7.* Avoid all affectation. A Preacher of the Gospel is the servant of all.

¶ 119. *Rule 8.* Be ashamed of nothing but sin.

¶ 120. *Rule 9.* Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience' sake.

¶ 121. *Rule 10.* You have nothing to do but to save souls; therefore spend and be spent in this work; and go always not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.

Observe! it is not your business only to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that Society,

but to save as many as you can; to bring as many sinners as you can to repentance, and with all your power to build them up in that holiness without which they cannot see the Lord. And remember! a Methodist Preacher is to mind every point, great and small, in the Methodist Discipline! Therefore you will need to exercise all the sense and grace you have.

¶ 122. *Rule 11.* Act in all things not according to your own will, but as a son in the Gospel. As such, it is your duty to employ your time in the manner in which we direct: in preaching, and visiting from house to house; in reading, meditation, and prayer. Above all, if you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for His glory.

¶ 123. Smaller advices which might be of use to us are perhaps these: 1. Be sure never to disappoint a congregation. 2. Begin at the time appointed. 3. Let your whole deportment be serious, weighty, and solemn. 4. Always suit your subject to your audience. 5. Choose the plainest text you can. 6. Take care not to ramble, but keep to your text, and make out what you take in hand. 7. Take care of anything awkward or affected, either in your gesture, phrase, or pronunciation. 8. Do not usually pray *extempore* above eight or ten minutes (at most) without intermission. 9. Frequently read and enlarge upon a portion of Scripture; and let young Preachers often exhort without taking a text. 10. Always avail yourself of the great festivals by preaching on the occasion.

III. Spiritual Qualifications

¶ 124. The duty of the Preacher is: 1. To preach. 2. To meet the Societies and Classes. 3. To visit the sick.

¶ 125. A Preacher shall be qualified for his charge by walking closely with God, and having his work greatly at heart, and by understanding and loving discipline, ours in particular.

¶ 126. We do not sufficiently watch over each other. Should we not frequently ask each other, Do you walk closely with God? Have you now fellowship with the Father and the Son? At what hour do you rise? Do you punctually observe the morning and evening hours of retirement? Do you spend the day in the manner which the Conference advises? Do you converse seriously, usefully, and closely? To be more particular: Do you use all the means of grace yourself, and enforce the use of them on all other persons?

¶ 127. The means of grace are either Instituted or Prudential.

¶ 128. The INSTITUTED are:

§ 1. *Prayer*: private, family, and public; consisting of deprecation, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving. Do you use each of these? Do you forecast daily, wherever you are, to secure time for private devotion? Do you practice it everywhere? Do you ask everywhere, Have you family prayer? Do you ask individuals, Do you use private prayer every morning and evening in particular?

§ 2. *Searching the Scriptures*: 1. *Reading*: constantly, some part of every day; regularly, all the Bible in order; carefully, with notes; seriously, with

prayer before and after; fruitfully, immediately practicing what you learn there. 2. Meditating: at set times; by rule. 3. Hearing: at every opportunity; with prayer before, and after. Have you a Bible always about you?

§ 3. *The Lord's Supper*: Do you use this at every opportunity? With solemn prayer before? With earnest and deliberate self-devotion?

§ 4. *Fasting*: Do you use as much abstinence and fasting every week as your health, strength, and labor will permit?

§ 5. *Christian Conference*: Are you convinced how important and how difficult it is to order your conversation aright? Is it always in grace? Seasoned with salt? Meet to minister grace to the hearers? Do you not converse too long at a time? Is not an hour commonly enough? Would it not be well always to have a determined end in view? And to pray before and after it?

¶ 129. PRUDENTIAL means we may use either as Christians, as Methodists, or as Preachers.

§ 1. *As Christians*: What particular rules have you in order to grow in grace? What arts of holy living?

§ 2. *As Methodists*: Do you ever miss your Class?

§ 3. *As Preachers*: Have you thoroughly considered your duty? And do you make a conscience of executing every part of it? Do you meet every Society and their Leaders?

¶ 130. These means may be used without fruit. But there are some means which cannot, namely: watching, denying ourselves, taking up our cross, exercise of the presence of God.

§ 1. Do you steadily watch against the world? Yourself? Your besetting sin?

§ 2. Do you deny yourself every useless pleasure of sense? imagination? honor? Are you temperate in all things? For instance, 1. Do you use only that kind and that degree of food which is best both for body and soul? Do you see the necessity of this? Do you eat no more at each meal than is necessary? Are you not heavy or drowsy after dinner? 2. Do you use only that kind and that degree of drink which is best both for your body and soul? Do you choose and use water for your common drink, and only take wine medicinally or sacramentally?

§ 3. Wherein do you take up your cross daily? Do you cheerfully bear your cross, however grievous to nature, as a gift of God, and labor to profit thereby?

§ 4. Do you endeavor to set God always before you? To see his eyes continually fixed upon you?

¶ 131. Never can you use these means but a blessing will ensue. And the more you use them the more you will grow in grace.

IV. Profitable Use of Time

¶ 132. As a general method of employing our time we advise you, 1. As often as possible to rise at four. 2. From four to five in the morning and from five to six in the evening to meditate, pray, and read the Scriptures with notes, and the closely practical part of what Mr. Wesley has published. 3. From six in the morning till twelve, wherever it is practicable, let the time be spent in appropriate reading, study, and private devotion.

¶ 133. Other reasons may concur, but the chief reason that the people under our care are not better is because we are not more knowing and more holy.

¶ 134. And we are not more knowing because we are idle. We forget our first rule: "Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary." We fear there is altogether a fault in this matter, and that few of us are clear. Which of us spend as many hours a day in God's work as we did formerly in man's work? We talk—talk—or read what comes next to hand. We must, absolutely must, cure this evil, or betray the cause of God. But how? 1. Read the most useful books, and that regularly and constantly. 2. Steadily spend all the morning in this employment, or at least five hours in the four and twenty. "But I have no taste for reading." Contract a taste for it by use, or return to your former employment. "But I have no books." Be diligent to spread the books, and you will have the use of them.

V. Necessity of Union Among Ourselves

¶ 135. Let us be deeply sensible (from what we have known) of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and the dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we divide, we shall destroy ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of our people.

¶ 136. In order to a closer union with each other, 1. Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it. 2. Pray earnestly for, and speak freely to, each other. 3. When we meet, let us never part without prayer. 4. Take great care not to despise each other's gifts. 5. Never speak lightly of each other.

6. Let us defend each other's character in everything so far as is consistent with truth. 7. Labor in honor each to prefer the other before himself. We recommend a serious perusal of *The Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions*.

VI. Deportment at Conference

¶ 137. It is desired that all things be considered on these occasions as in the immediate presence of God; that every person speak freely whatever is in his heart.

¶ 138. In order, therefore, that we may best improve our time at the Conferences, 1. While we are conversing let us have an especial care to set God always before us. 2. In the intermediate hours let us redeem all the time we can for private exercises. 3. Therein let us give ourselves to prayer for one another, and for a blessing on our labor.

VII. Where and How to Preach

¶ 139. It is by no means advisable for us to preach in as many places as we can without forming any Societies. We have made the trial in various places, and that for a considerable time. But all that seed has fallen by the wayside. There is scarcely any fruit remaining.

¶ 140. We should endeavor to preach most, 1. Where there is the greatest number of quiet and willing hearers; 2. Where there is most fruit.

¶ 141. We ought diligently to observe in what places God is pleased at any time to pour out his

Spirit more abundantly, and at that time to send more laborers than usual into that part of the harvest.

¶ 142. The best general method of preaching is, 1. To convince; 2. To offer Christ; 3. To invite; 4. To build up. And to do this in some measure in every sermon.

¶ 143. The most effectual way of preaching Christ is to preach him in all his offices; and to declare his law, as well as his Gospel, both to believers and unbelievers. Let us strongly and closely insist upon inward and outward holiness in all its branches.

VIII. Pastoral Fidelity

¶ 144. We can further assist those under our care by instructing them at their own houses. What unspeakable need is there of this! The world says, "The Methodists are no better than other people." This is not true in the general; but,

§ 1. Personal religion, both toward God and man, is too superficial among us. We can only touch on a few particulars. How little faith is there among us! How little communion with God! How little living in heaven, walking in eternity, deadness to every creature! How much love of the world! Desire of pleasure, of ease, of getting money! How little brotherly love! What continual judging one another! What gossiping, evil-speaking, talebearing! What want of moral honesty! To instance only one particular: Who does as he would be done by in buying and selling?

§ 2. Family religion is wanting in many branches. And what avails public preaching alone, though we

could preach like angels? We must, yea, every Traveling Preacher must, instruct the people from house to house. Till this be done, and that in good earnest, Methodists will be no better.

§ 3. Our religion is not sufficiently deep, universal, uniform; but superficial, partial, uneven. It will be so till we spend half as much time in this visiting as we now do in talking uselessly. Can we find a better method of doing this than Mr. Baxter's? If not, let us adopt it without delay. His whole tract, entitled *Gildas Salvianus; or, The Reformed Pastor*, is well worth a careful perusal. Speaking of this visiting from house to house he says (p. 273), "We shall find many hindrances, both in ourselves and the people." 1. In ourselves there is much dullness and laziness, so that there will be much ado to get us to be faithful in the work. 2. We have a base, man-pleasing temper, so that we let people perish rather than lose their love; we let them go quietly to hell lest we should offend them. 3. Some of us also have a foolish bashfulness. We know not how to begin, and blush to contradict the devil. 4. But the greatest hindrance is weakness of faith. Our whole motion is weak, because the spring of it is weak. 5. Lastly, we are unskillful in the work. How few know how to deal with men, so as to get within them, and suit all our discourse to their several conditions and tempers; to choose the fittest subjects and follow them with a holy mixture of seriousness, terror, love, and meekness!

¶ 145. But undoubtedly this private application is implied in those solemn words of the Apostle: "I charge thee before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appear-

ing, to preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering."

¶ 146. O brethren, if we could but set this work on foot in all our Societies, and prosecute it zealously, what glory would redound to God! If the common lukewarmness were banished, and every shop, and every house, busied in speaking of the words and works of God, surely God would dwell in our habitations, and make us his delight!

¶ 147. And this is absolutely necessary to the welfare of our people, some of whom neither repent nor believe to this day. Look around, and see how many of them are still in apparent danger of damnation. And how can you walk and talk, and be merry with such people, when you know their case? When you look them in the face, you should break forth into tears, as the prophet did when he looked upon Hazael, and then set upon them with the most vehement exhortations. O, for God's sake, and the sake of poor souls, bestir yourselves, and spare no pains that may conduce to their salvation! What cause have we to mourn before the Lord that we have so long neglected this good work! If we had but engaged in it sooner, how many more might have been brought to Christ! And how much holier and happier might our Societies have been before now! And why might we not have done it sooner? There were many hindrances; and so there always will be. But the greatest hindrance is in ourselves, in our littleness of faith and love.

¶ 148. But it is objected:

§ 1. "This will take up so much time that we shall not have leisure to follow our studies." We answer,

1. Gaining knowledge is a good thing, but saving souls is a better. 2. By this very thing you will gain the most excellent knowledge, that of God and eternity. 3. You will have time for gaining other knowledge, too, only sleep no more than you need, "and never be idle, nor triflingly employed." But, 4. If you can do but one, let your studies alone. We ought to throw by all the libraries in the world, rather than be guilty of the loss of one soul.

§ 2. "The people will not submit to it." If some will not, others will, and the success with them will repay all your labor. O let us herein follow the example of St. Paul! 1. For our general business, *Serving the Lord with all humility of mind*: 2. Our special work, *Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock*: 3. Our doctrine, *Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*: 4. The place, *I have taught you publicly, and from house to house*: 5. The object and manner of teaching, *I ceased not to warn everyone night and day, with tears*: 6. His innocence and self-denial herein, *I have coveted no man's silver or gold*: 7. His patience, *Neither count I my life dear unto myself*. And among all other motives let these be ever before our eyes: (1) *The Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood*: (2) *Grievous wolves shall enter in; yea, of yourselves shall men arise, speaking perverse things*.

¶ 149. Write this upon your hearts, and it will do you more good than twenty years' study. Then you will have no time to spare: you will have work enough. Then likewise no Preacher will stay with us who is as salt that has lost its savor. For to such this employment would be mere drudgery. And in

order to do it, you will have need of all the knowledge you can procure, and grace you can attain.

¶ 150. The sum is, Go into every house in course, and teach everyone therein, young and old, to be Christians inwardly and outwardly: make every particular plain to their understandings: fix it in their minds: write it on their hearts. In order to this, there must be precept upon precept, line upon line. What patience, what love, what knowledge is requisite for this! We must needs do this, were it only to avoid idleness. Do we not loiter away many hours in every week? Each try himself; no idleness is consistent with a growth in grace. Nay, without exactness in redeeming time you cannot retain the grace you receive in justification.

¶ 151. Why are we not more holy? why do we not live in eternity? walk with God all the day long? why are we not all devoted to God, breathing the whole spirit of missionaries? Chiefly because we are enthusiasts; looking for the end without using the means. To touch only upon two or three instances: Who of us rise at four, or even at five, when we do not preach? Do we know the obligation and benefit of fasting or abstinence? How often do we practice it? The neglect of this alone is sufficient to account for our feebleness and faintness of spirit. We are continually grieving the Holy Spirit of God by the habitual neglect of a plain duty. Let us amend from this hour.

¶ 152. In order to guard against Sabbath-breaking, evil-speaking, unprofitable conversation, lightness, expensiveness or gayety of apparel, and contracting debts without due care to discharge them, 1. Let us preach expressly on each of these heads.

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2. Read in every Society the Sermon on Evil-speaking. 3. Let the Leaders closely examine and exhort every person to put away the accursed thing. 4. Let the Preachers warn every Society that none who is guilty herein can remain with us. 5. Extirpate out of our Church buying or selling goods which have not paid the duty laid upon them by government. Let none remain with us who will not totally abstain from evil in every kind and degree. Extirpate bribery—receiving anything, directly or indirectly—for voting at any election. Show no respect to persons herein, but expel all that touch the accursed thing. And strongly advise our people to discountenance all treats given by candidates before or at elections, and not to be partakers, in any respect, of such iniquitous practices.

CHAPTER II

MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. Reception on Trial

¶ 153. A Preacher is to be received on Trial by an Annual or Mission Conference.

¶ 154, § 1. He must (1) present a recommendation duly signed by the President and Secretary of the District Conference, or, where no District Conference exists, of the Quarterly Conference, of which he is a member; (2) give to the Annual or Mission Conference satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the studies prescribed for candidates for Reception

on Trial; and (3) have previously deposited with the Committee on Conference Relations, written answers to the following questions, namely:

1. Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Ministry?

2. Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco?

NOTE.—Like answers shall also be required of Ministers proposing to come to us from other Churches.

§ 2. Observe! Taking on Trial is entirely different from admitting a Preacher into Full Membership. One on Trial may be either admitted or rejected without doing him any wrong; otherwise it would be no trial at all.

¶ 155. While he is on Trial the Annual Conference alone has jurisdiction over the question of his authority to preach; and his continuance on Trial shall be equivalent to the renewal of his License to preach. If he shall be discontinued, he shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference of the Charge where he resides at the time; and, if he is not a Deacon or Elder, his License shall expire within one year unless it be renewed.

¶ 156. When an unordained Preacher is received on trial in an Annual Conference, and, without an ordained colleague, is regularly appointed to a Pastoral Charge by the Bishop presiding in said Conference; or when a Local Preacher, not on trial, is employed by the District Superintendent to supply a Pastoral Charge, in either case and as long as the above conditions exist, the Pastor or the pastoral supply so appointed shall be authorized to administer the Sacrament of Baptism; and also to solemnize Matrimony; if the laws of the State in which he lives permit.

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¶ 157. At each Annual Conference those who are received on Trial or are admitted into Full Membership shall be asked whether they are willing to devote themselves to missionary work; and a list of the names of all those who are willing to do so shall be taken and reported to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Board of Foreign Missions; and all such shall be considered as ready and willing to be employed as Missionaries whenever called for by any of the Bishops.

II. Admission into Full Membership

¶ 158. A Preacher on Trial who has been employed in the regular itinerant work on Circuits or Stations, or as instructor in one of our institutions of learning, for two successive years from the time he was received on Trial, may be admitted into Full Membership in the Annual Conference after he has given satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the first two years of the Conference Course of Study, and after the examination before the Conference prescribed in ¶ 159; provided, this shall not be so construed as to prevent the reception into Full Membership of one who, while a student in some one of our literary schools or theological seminaries, has been for the proper length of time regularly employed as Pastor in a Circuit or Station under the appointment of the District Superintendent.

¶ 159. In admitting a Preacher at the Conference into Full Membership, after solemn fasting and prayer, he shall be asked, before the Conference, the following questions, with any others which may be thought necessary, namely:

1. Have you faith in Christ?
2. Are you going on to perfection?
3. Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
4. Are you earnestly striving after it?
5. Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work?
6. Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
7. Will you keep them?
8. Have you studied the Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church?
9. After full examination do you believe that our Doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
10. Will you preach and maintain them?
11. Have you studied our form of Church Discipline and Polity?
12. Do you approve our Church Government and Polity?
13. Will you support and maintain them?
14. Have you considered the Rules for a Preacher, especially those relating to Diligence, to Punctuality, and to Doing the Work to which you are assigned?
15. Will you keep them for conscience' sake?
16. Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?
17. Will you visit from house to house?
18. Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?
19. Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?

NOTE.—The candidate for Admission into Full Membership must again deposit with the Secretary of the Conference, or with the Committee on Conference Relations, written answers to the questions set forth in ¶ 154, § 1.

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¶ 160. A Missionary employed in a Mission may be admitted into Full Membership, if recommended by the Superintendent of the Mission where he labors, without being present at his Annual Conference for examination; but whenever practicable he shall be asked the questions in ¶ 159, in the presence of the Members of the Mission at the Annual Meeting, otherwise in the presence of the Superintendent.

¶ 161. A Minister who has been located at his own request may be readmitted by an Annual Conference, at its discretion, upon his Certificate of Location.

III. Ministers from Other Churches

¶ 162, § 1. Ministers duly accredited as in good standing in other Evangelical Churches until their withdrawal or dismissal therefrom, and having been blameless in life and doctrine thereafter, may be received into our ministry in the following manner:

The Quarterly Conference may receive them as Local Preachers not entitled to administer the Sacraments.

§ 2. Upon the recommendation of the District Conference, or of the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, the Annual Conference may at any time thereafter recognize the Orders of those thus received; may at any time within two years thereafter, upon like recommendation, receive them into the Conference, either on Trial or in Full Membership; and may, at its discretion, require them to pursue, in whole or in part, the Conference Course of Study. In case a Minister comes from a Church

having but a single Order in its ministry, the Conference may receive him either as a Deacon or as an Elder.

§ 3. But the Ministers of the above description may apply directly to the Annual Conference, which may receive their Credentials from another Church, and, finding them of unquestionable validity and sufficiency, may exercise in behalf of said Ministers all the powers conferred in the preceding section.

§ 4. In all such cases the candidates for Admission into Full Membership must answer satisfactorily the questions set forth in ¶ 159; and candidates who come from other than Methodist Churches before the recognition of their Orders, must take upon themselves our Ordination Vows, and give satisfactory evidence of their agreement with us in Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 5. The Annual Conference may also admit to equal grade Preachers who are on Trial in the ministry of another Methodist Church, using, however, special care that before they are admitted to Full Membership their examination be entirely satisfactory.

¶ 163. Wherever the Orders of a Minister are recognized according to the foregoing provisions he shall be furnished with a Certificate, signed by the Bishop, in the following words, namely:

"This is to Certify that the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having examined the Credentials of the Rev. as (an Elder or a Deacon) of the Church, and having received other testimonials of his Grace, Gifts, and Usefulness, and being satisfied therewith, has this day accepted and recognized him in due form as (an Elder or a Deacon) in the

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Methodist Episcopal Church, entitled to exercise under its authority all the functions pertaining to that office, so long as his life and doctrine become the Gospel of Christ.

"Given under my hand and seal at, this day of, in the year of our Lord

", President."

¶ 164. When the Orders of a Minister of another Church shall have been duly recognized, his Certificate of Ordination by said Church shall be returned to him with the following inscription written plainly across its face:

"Accredited by the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, this . . . day of . . ., 19 . . ., as the basis of new Credentials.

", President.

", Secretary."

IV. Ministers in Official Positions

¶ 165. Traveling Preachers who are elected to official positions by the General Conference shall be Members of such Annual Conferences as, with the approbation of the Bishops, they may select.

V. Termination of Conference Membership

1. *By Location*

¶ 166. An Annual Conference may grant to any Member who is in good standing therein a Location, certified by the President of the Conference. Such Minister shall thereupon hold his membership as a Local Elder or Deacon in the Quarterly Conference where he resides. ¶ 215, § 4.

¶ 167. Whenever a Member of an Annual Conference applies for a Location it shall be asked: Is he indebted to the Book Concern? If it be ascertained that he is so indebted the Conference shall require him to secure said debt, if judged necessary or proper, before a Location is granted.

2. *By the Surrender of Ministerial Office*

¶ 168. Any Member of an Annual Conference in good standing, who may desire to surrender his Ministerial Office and withdraw from the Conference, may be allowed to do so by the Conference at its session; in which case his Credentials shall be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference of which he was a Member, and his membership in the Church shall be recorded in the Society where he resided at the time of such surrender.

3. *By Withdrawal*

¶ 169, § 1. When a Minister in good standing withdraws to join the Ministry of another Church, his Credentials should be surrendered to the Conference, and, if he shall desire it, they may be returned to him with the following inscription written plainly across their face, namely:

"A..... B..... has this day been honorably dismissed by the Annual Conference from the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Dated

"....., President,

"....., Secretary."

§ 2. When in the interval of the Annual Conference a Member thereof shall deposit with a Bishop or with his District Superintendent a letter of withdrawal

from our Ministry, or his Credentials, or both, the same shall be presented to the Annual Conference at its next session for its action thereon.

4. *By Judicial Procedure*

¶ 170. Conference Membership may be terminated also by Judicial Procedure.

For Causes and Methods, see ¶¶ 243-260.

CHAPTER III

DEACONS

¶ 171. A Deacon is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference and the laying on of the hands of a Bishop.

¶ 172. A Deacon has authority to preach; to conduct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony; to administer Baptism; and to assist the Elder in administering the Lord's Supper.

¶ 173. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Deacon:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for four consecutive years; (2) shall present a recommendation for Deacons' Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the studies prescribed for Local Preachers who are candidates for Deacons' Orders.

NOTE.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for two full years; and (2) also at and during the same time have been regular students in one of our theological seminaries; (3) shall have been received on Trial; and (4) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been on Trial in an Annual Conference for two years, and (2) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 4. Those Preachers on Trial who shall be appointed by a Bishop to a foreign Mission, or to a remote field in any Conference, or to a Church in a foreign country outside of the boundary of a Mission or Annual Conference, or to a Chaplaincy in the Army or Navy, in a Prison, Reformatory, Sanatorium, or a Charitable Institution, provided, that the presiding Bishop and a majority of the District Superintendents recommend such election.

CHAPTER IV

ELDERS

¶ 174. An Elder is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference, and by the laying on of the hands of a Bishop and of some of the Elders who are present.

¶ 175. An Elder has authority to preach; to conduct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony, and to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

¶ 176. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Elder:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been for four consecutive years Local Deacons; (2) shall present a recommendation for Elders' Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the Studies prescribed for Local Deacons who are candidates for Elders' Orders.

NOTE 1.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

NOTE 2.—The Election of such Preachers to Elders' Orders properly precedes their Admission to Full Membership.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been in Full Membership in the Annual Conference for two successive years, and (2) also Deacons during the same time, and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been received on Trial, and elected to the office of Deacon under the provision of ¶ 173, § 2; (2) have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study, and (3) have been admitted into Full Membership.

§ 4. Those who (1) are members of, or have been received on Trial in an Annual Conference, and (2) have been appointed to a Chaplaincy in the Army, or Navy, or to a foreign Mission, or to the Pastorate of a Church in a foreign country outside of a Mission or Conference, or to a Mission among foreign people within an English-speaking Conference.

¶ 177. When a Preacher shall have passed his ex-

amination, and shall have been admitted into Full Membership, and elected to the Office of Deacon, but fails of his Ordination through the absence of the Bishop, his eligibility to the Office of Elder shall count from the time of his election to the Office of Deacon.

¶ 178. The Annual Conferences in India are authorized, with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, to elect to the Office of Deacon or Elder, Local Preachers who have been engaged in the regular work for two years, or four years, respectively.

CHAPTER V

PASTORS (Preachers in Charge)

I. *Duties*

¶ 179. The duties of the Pastor of a Station or Circuit are:

§ 1. To have the oversight of the other Preachers in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 2. To appoint Class Leaders; to change them when he deems it necessary, and to examine each of them, with all possible exactness, at least once a quarter, concerning his method of leading a Class.

§ 3. To receive persons on probation and instruct them in the doctrines, rules, and regulations of the Church according to the Probationers' Manual officially provided; to receive persons into Full Membership when properly recommended; to receive and dismiss members by Certificate, and to administer the Discipline within his Pastoral Charge.

§ 4. To read and explain the General Rules at least once a year in each Congregation.

§ 5. To appoint Prayer Meetings wherever advisable in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 6. To arrange the appointments, wherever practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

§ 7. To license such persons as he may deem proper to officiate as Exhorters in the Church, according to the provisions of the Discipline, ¶ 220.

§ 8. To hold Watch-night Meetings yearly, and Love Feasts quarterly, suffering no Love Feast to last above an hour and a half; to hold Quarterly Meetings in the absence of the District Superintendent and of the Traveling Elder appointed by him as his substitute.

§ 9. To take care that every Society be supplied with our Church literature.

§ 10. To form Classes of the larger children, youth, and adults for instruction in the Word of God; and to attend to all the duties prescribed for the training of children. ¶¶ 51-54.

§ 11. To catechize the children publicly in the Sunday School, at special meetings appointed for that purpose, and also privately; to report to each Quarterly Conference the extent to which he has done this work.

§ 12. To organize and maintain if practicable, Chapters of the Epworth League and of the Junior Epworth League.

§ 13. To organize and maintain if practicable, Chapters of the Methodist Brotherhood.

§ 14. To organize and maintain if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.

§ 15. To organize and maintain if practicable, a Home Department in the Sunday School.

§ 16. To examine the accounts of the Stewards.

§ 17. To see that the Stewards provide, whenever practicable, unfermented wine for use in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

§ 18. To teach the duty of Christian Stewardship in accordance with Special Advices. ¶ 70.

§ 19. In the absence of any other financial plan to appoint a person to receive the quarterly collection in the Classes.

§ 20. To see that public collections be made quarterly if need be.

§ 21. To call the Committee on Temperance together at least once in three months for the purpose of considering the best means to be employed for promoting the cause of Temperance in the community.

§ 22. To recommend everywhere decency and cleanliness.

§ 23. To attend to the duties enjoined upon Pastors in reference to Conference Claimants, Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Education, Sunday Schools, Freedmen's Aid, and the distribution of Tracts; to form societies and take collections in aid of these objects in such manner as the Discipline shall direct.

§ 24. To take a collection or subscription, the proceeds of which shall be at the disposal of the Pastor for the distribution of Tracts, if the Annual Conference shall not give other directions on the subject.

§ 25. To take an annual collection in behalf of the American Bible Society.

§ 26. To take a collection during each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference to aid in providing for the expenses of the General Conference, Judicial Conferences, Fraternal

Delegates, and such General Conference Commissions as do not relate to the publishing interests.

§ 27. To take an annual collection in behalf of the Board of Sunday Schools, and to see that a collection be taken annually in each Sunday School.

§ 28. To register carefully Marriages and Baptisms.

§ 29. To give an account of the Charge every quarter to the District Superintendent.

§ 30. At the close of each Conference year to make a Visiting List of members in towns and cities, by streets and numbers, and to leave it to his successor, together with a particular account of his Charge and a list of subscribers for our Periodicals.

II. Reports

¶ 180. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to properly prepare and present the following reports:

§ 1. To make an exact report to the Annual Conference of all the items required for the Statistics of the Conference, and to deliver to the Conference Treasurer all moneys raised for benevolent causes, or satisfactory vouchers for the same (¶ 86, §§ 2, 3), using the forms prescribed in ¶¶ 89 and 90; and to report in open Conference whether or not he has presented the claims of the benevolent causes according to the requirements of the Discipline.

§ 2. To make a written report at each Quarterly Conference in the order, covering all the items, set forth in the following form:

The Preacher in charge of, Conference presents the following

QUARTERLY REPORT

of Charge to the Quarterly Conference held at, 19.....

I. Sunday Schools and Religious Instruction

1. Number of Sunday Schools.
2. State of the Schools.
3. Average Attendance.
4. Number in the Home Department.
5. Number of Sermons preached by the Pastor to the Children.
6. Number of times the Pastor has catechized the Children.
7. Number of Classes of Children formed for religious instruction.

II. Changes in Membership

[NOTE.—Enter under each item the names of the persons and places concerned.]

1. Persons desiring to Unite with the Church.
2. Persons Received into Membership from Probation.
3. Persons Received into Membership by Certificate.
4. Persons Received from Other Evangelical Churches.
5. Persons Dismissed by Certificate and to what Pastoral Charge.
6. Certificates Acknowledged to the Pastoral Charges issuing the same.
7. Certificates issued to other Charges acknowledged by the same.
8. Deceased.
9. Removed Without Letter.
10. Where new address is known has the Pastor been Notified?
11. Withdrawn.
12. Expelled.

III. Pastoral Labor

1. Number of Pastoral Visits.

2. Other Items.

IV. *Benevolent Collections this Quarter*

1. Board of Foreign Missions.
2. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.
3. Freedmen's Aid Society.
4. Education.
 - a. Public Educational Collection.
 - b. Children's Day Fund.
 - c. Conference Educational Collection.
5. Board of Sunday Schools.
6. Board of Conference Claimants.
7. Church Temperance Society.
8. American Bible Society.
9. City Missionary or Church Extension Society.
10. Other Objects.

V. *Subscribers for Periodicals*

[NOTE.—To be reported only at Fourth Quarterly Conference.]

1. Christian Advocate.
2. Methodist Review.
3. Sunday School Journal.
4. Sunday School Advocate.
5. The Classmate.
6. Epworth Herald.
7. Other Periodicals.

.....*Preacher in Charge.*

§ 3. To make full written Pastor's Summary Report to the District Superintendent at the close of each year, for use in the Bishop's Cabinet only, in the following form:

PASTOR'S SUMMARY REPORT
(FOR CABINET USE ONLY)

To be given to the District Superintendent on the first day of the Conference session.

All figures should check with the Statistician's and Conference Treasurer's reports. All blanks should be filled and totals recorded.

I. Membership

Number of Members (full members only).

Number of Accessions during the year.

II. Property

Value of Church Property.

Value of Parsonage Property.

Total.

Amount of Debt.

Net Property.

III. Ministerial Support

Pastor.

Cash.

Parsonage Rent.

District Superintendent.

Conference Claimants

Bishops.

Total Ministerial Support.

(Do not report Missionary Money as salary)

IV. Disciplinary Collections

Board of Foreign Missions:

Church.

Sunday School.

Board of Home Missions and Church Extension:

Church.

Sunday School.

Freedmen's Aid Society.

Board of Education:

Public Educational Collection.

Children's Fund.

Board of Sunday Schools:

Church.

Sunday School.

Board of Conference Claimants.

Church Temperance Society.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Woman's Home Missionary Society (cash only).

American Bible Society.

City Missionary or Church Extension Society.

Total Collections (Disciplinary).

Special Gifts, Bequests, and Other Collections:

Special Gifts Foreign Missions.

Special Gifts Home Missions and Church Extension.

Conference Educational Collection.

Annual Conference Investments.

Central Office Expenses of Epworth League.

General Conference Expenses.

Methodist Brotherhood Dues.

Other Collections.

Total.

Names of Pastors serving this Charge during the previous four years.

Names of my own appointments during the previous four years.

When appointed to present Charge.

¶ 181. No Pastor shall engage an Evangelist other than one of his own Conference appointed by the Bishop without first obtaining the written consent of his District Superintendent.

¶ 182. No preaching place shall be discontinued in the intervals between the sessions of the Annual Conference without the consent and advice of the Quarterly Conference and of the District Superintendent; and if thus discontinued, the names of the members shall be transferred to such contiguous Classes as the members may select.

CHAPTER VI

SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

¶ 183. A Supernumerary Minister is one who, because of impaired health, or other equally sufficient reason, is temporarily unable to perform full work. This relation shall not be granted for more than five years in succession. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a Member; and he shall be subject to all the limitations of the Discipline in respect to reappointment and continuance in the same Charge that apply to Effective Ministers. In case he has no Pastoral Charge he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership, in the place where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. Should he reside beyond the bounds of his Annual Conference, he shall forward to it annually a certificate similar to that required of a Retired Minister, and in case of failure to do so the Annual Conference may locate him without his consent. He shall have no claim on the Conference funds except by vote of the Conference; such claim to be paid out of the necessitous fund.

CHAPTER VII

RETIRED MINISTERS

¶ 184. Every Retired Minister, who is not employed as Pastor of a Charge, shall have a seat in

the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership in the Church where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. If he reside without the bounds of the Conference of which he is a Member, he shall forward annually to his Conference a certificate of his Christian and Ministerial conduct, together with an account of the number and circumstances of his family, signed by the District Superintendent of the District or the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds he resides; without which the Conference shall not be required to allow his claim, and may, after due notice and due form and record of trial, locate him without his consent.

CHAPTER VIII

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

¶ 185. District Superintendents are to be chosen and appointed by the Bishops. ¶¶ 202, 203.

¶ 186. The duties of a District Superintendent are:

§ 1. To travel throughout his District.

§ 2. In the absence of a Bishop to take charge of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, and Exhorters in his District, as the Discipline directs.

§ 3. To change the appointments of the Preachers in his District, if necessary, during the interval between the sessions of the Conference, in case the Bishop is not personally present within the bounds of the Annual Conference.

§ 4. To preside in the District Conference in the absence of a Bishop. ¶ 97.

§ 5. To be present as far as practicable at all the Quarterly Meetings, and at each to call together the Quarterly Conference to transact the business assigned to it by the Discipline; provided, however, that he may either combine the second and third Quarterly Conferences or may omit them, as may seem best, after consultation with the Pastor.

§ 6. To issue Licenses and to renew them, in accordance with the action of the District or Quarterly Conferences. ¶ 214, § 1.

§ 7. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church in his District.

§ 8. To see that all Charters, Deeds, and other conveyances of Church property in his District conform strictly to the Discipline and to the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated.

§ 9. To see that all Church property is well insured.

§ 10. To promote by all proper means the interests of Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Freedmen's Aid, Education, Sunday Schools, Conference Claimants, Epworth Leagues, Junior Epworth League Chapters, Methodist Brotherhoods, Temperance and Ladies' Aid Societies; to administer the rules of the Church as to these and other benevolent causes, and to secure conformity thereto on the part of both Pastors and Quarterly Conferences; and to report in open Conference whether or not the provisions of the Discipline for the support of the various benevolences of the Church have been carried out in his District.

§ 11. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionment for the Episcopal Fund has been paid in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

§ 12. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionments for the expenses of the General Conference and other general expenses of the Church have been paid.

§ 13. To report to the Annual Conference the condition and statistics of the literary and theological institutions located in his District, and under the care of our Church; and at the last Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge to ask the questions set forth in ¶ 455, § 2.

§ 14. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the rules respecting the instruction of children, including instruction in Temperance, have been observed.

§ 15. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the provisions for the *pro rata* division of the several claims for Ministerial Support have been observed. ¶¶ 313, 317, 319, 320.

§ 16. To see in his District that every part of our Discipline is enforced.

§ 17. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in a District or Quarterly Conference, subject to an appeal to the President of the next Annual Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference. ¶¶ 255, 304, §§ 13, 14.

§ 18. To attend the Bishop when he is present in the District, and when he is absent to give him by letter all necessary information as to the state of the District.

§ 19. To furnish to the Members of the General

Committee of the General Conference District of which his Annual Conference is a part, prior to the annual meeting of the General Committee, a written statement of the condition of the Missions under his care and of their pecuniary needs.

§ 20. To direct the attention of candidates for the Ministry to the advantages of a thorough training in the literary and theological schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also to direct those who are admitted on Trial in the Annual Conference to the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops.

§ 21. To explain to Preachers on Trial, as well as to those who are to be proposed for reception on Trial, that the Annual Conference may refuse to admit them to Full Membership without doing them any wrong.

¶ 187. If any Pastor absent himself from his Charge the District Superintendent shall fill his place, if possible, with another Preacher, who shall be paid for his labors out of the allowance of the absent Pastor, and in proportion thereto.

¶ 188. A District Superintendent shall not employ a Preacher who has been rejected by the previous Annual Conference, unless the Conference give him authority to do so.

CHAPTER IX

MISSIONARY BISHOPS

¶ 189. A Missionary Bishop is a Bishop elected for a specified Foreign Mission field, with full Episcopal powers, but with Episcopal jurisdiction limited to the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

¶ 190. A Missionary Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, as is a General Superintendent, and shall receive his support from the Episcopal Fund.

¶ 191. A Missionary Bishop is not, in the meaning of the Discipline, a General Superintendent.

¶ 192. The election of a Missionary Bishop carries with it his assignment to a specified Foreign Mission field, and such Bishop cannot be made a General Superintendent except by a distinct election to that office.

¶ 193. When two or more Missionary Bishops are located in the same Foreign Mission field they shall have coördinate authority.

¶ 194. A Missionary Bishop is not subordinate to the General Superintendents, but is of coördinate authority in the field to which he is appointed. In the practical application of this coördinate authority, when the General Superintendents are making their assignments to the Conferences, any Missionary Bishop who may be in the United States shall sit with them when his field is under consideration; and arrangements shall be made so that once in every quadrennium, and not oftener unless a serious emergency arises, every Mission over which a Missionary Bishop has jurisdiction shall be administered conjointly by a General Superintendent and the Missionary Bishop. In case of a difference of judgment between them the existing status shall continue, unless overruled by the General Superintendents, who shall have power to decide finally.

¶ 195. The names of the Missionary Bishops shall be printed in the Book of Discipline and the Meth-

odist Hymnal below the names of the Bishops, under the title, "Missionary Bishops."

¶ 196. A Missionary Bishop shall be *ex officio* a member of the General Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions and in his field shall coöperate with the Board precisely as a General Superintendent is expected to coöperate with said Board in a Foreign Mission field over which he has Episcopal charge.

¶ 197. When a Missionary Bishop, by death or for other cause, ceases to perform Episcopal duty for the foreign field to which he was assigned by the General Conference, the General Superintendents shall at once take supervision of said field.

¶ 198. The transfer of a Preacher from a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop to a Conference under the Episcopal supervision of a General Superintendent, or from a Conference under the Episcopal Supervision of a General Superintendent to a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop, shall require mutual agreement between the two Bishops; and a similar agreement shall be required between the two Bishops having charge when the proposed transfer is between two foreign fields over which there are Missionary Bishops.

CHAPTER X

BISHOPS

I. How Constituted

¶ 199. A Bishop shall be constituted by the election of the General Conference and the laying on of

the hands of three Bishops, or at least of one Bishop and two Elders.

¶ 200. If by death, or otherwise, there be no Bishop remaining in our Church, the General Conference shall elect a Bishop, and the Elders, or any three of them who shall be appointed by the General Conference for that purpose, shall consecrate him according to the Ritual.

II. Amenability

¶ 201. A Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, which also shall have power to order the manner of a trial.

III. Duties

¶ 202. The duties of a Bishop are:

§ 1. To preside in the Annual Conferences.

§ 2. To form the Districts according to his judgment.

§ 3. To fix the appointments of the Preachers under the provisions and limitations stated in ¶ 203.

§ 4. To fix within their own Conferences the Quarterly Conference membership of all Ministers appointed under ¶ 203, §§ 3, 4 (except those who are Pastors of Churches); also of those Ministers who are left without appointment to attend some one of our schools.

§ 5. In the interval between the sessions of the Annual Conference, to change the appointments of the Preachers, as necessity may require and the Discipline direct.

§ 6. To travel through the Connection at large.

§ 7. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church.

§ 8. To preside in the District Conference.

§ 9. To consecrate Bishops, and Ordain Elders and Deacons.

§ 10. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in an Annual Conference, subject to appeal to the General Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference.

¶ 203. The following provisions and limitations shall be observed by the Bishop when fixing the appointments:

§ 1. He shall appoint Preachers to Pastoral Charges annually.

§ 2. He shall not allow a District Superintendent to preside in the same District more than six consecutive years, nor more than six years in any consecutive twelve. Nevertheless, if in any case the term of six years shall expire in the interval between the sessions of the Annual Conference, he may continue him until the next session, provided the time shall not be more than six months. But District Superintendents in either Missions or Mission Conferences in foreign lands may be appointed to the same District for more than six consecutive years.

§ 3. He may make the following appointments annually:

- (1) The Corresponding Secretaries, Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, and Recording Secretaries of our Connectional Benevolent Boards and Societies.

(2) The Publishing Agents at New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.

(3) The Editors and Assistant Editors at New York, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, San Francisco, Portland, New Orleans, and Athens, Tenn., and the Editor of *Zion's Herald*.

(4) Chaplains in the Army and Navy, and to Prisons, Reformatories, Sanatoriums, and Charitable Institutions.

(5) Preachers for Seamen.

(6) Ministers in the service of the American Bible Society, or of any State Bible Society auxiliary thereto; or of the Sunday League of America.

(7) The Presidents, Principals, and Teachers of institutions of learning under our care.

(8) The Secretaries and Superintendents of City Missions.

§ 4. *If requested by an Annual Conference, he may appoint:*

(1) An Agent to travel throughout such Conference for the purpose of distributing Tracts.

(2) An Agent or Agents to promote the cause of Temperance.

(3) Instructors in Institutions of Learning not under your care.

(4) An Agent or Agents for the benefit of our Institutions of Learning.

(5) An Agent for the German Publishing Fund.

(6) Agents for other benevolent institutions.

(7) Editors of unofficial Papers or Magazines published in the interest of the Methodist Episcopal Church; provided, that in no such case shall the Church incur any financial responsibility.

(8) One or more Members of an Annual Conference to do evangelistic work on Charges within that Conference, if invited by the Pastors and in coöperation with them; or in neglected territory within any District, when requested by, and in coöperation with, the District Superintendent of such District; provided, that the Conference shall determine by vote how many of its members may be thus appointed; and that the said Annual Conference shall by vote of two thirds of its members present and voting request such appointment.

IV. Powers

¶ 204. The Bishops shall prescribe the studies upon which those applying for License to Preach, for Orders as Local Preachers, and for Reception on Trial, respectively, shall be examined; also a Course of Study for Local Preachers, extending through four years; and a Conference Course of Study, extending through four years, to be pursued by those who have been received on Trial in an Annual Conference.

¶ 205. A Bishop may leave without appointment a Preacher on Trial or a Member of an Annual Conference who desires to attend any of our literary or theological seminaries, whenever he shall be requested to do so by the Annual Conference and it

shall seem to him expedient; provided, however, that the time thus spent in school shall not count on that required for Trial in the Annual Conference, except when at least two full years shall have been spent in regular work under appointment by a District Superintendent who, together with the Quarterly Conference, certifies to the efficiency of his work. A preacher thus left without appointment may be employed as a supply in another Conference by a District Superintendent without being transferred.

¶ 206. Bishops are relieved from the duty of investigating and reporting upon charges of erroneous teaching in our theological schools; but when charges of that nature are made to, or laid before them, they may refer the same without action thereon to the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member for such proceeding as such Conference may deem appropriate in the premises. If, however, the Professor be a layman, the charges shall be sent to his Pastor and he shall be brought to trial according to the provisions of ¶ 247 of the Discipline. But in case the complaints affect the manner of teaching, or personal fitness, and not doctrinal soundness, the Bishops, after due consideration, shall communicate their judgment in the case to the governing board of the school directly concerned.

¶ 207. A Bishop, when he judges it necessary, may unite two or more Pastoral Charges for Quarterly Conference purposes, without affecting their separate financial interests or pastoral relations.

¶ 208. If a Bishop cease from traveling at large among the people without the consent of the General Conference he shall not thereafter exercise, in any degree, the Episcopal Office in our Church.

¶ 209. In case there be no Bishop to travel at large through the Districts and exercise the Episcopal Office, on account of death or otherwise, the Districts shall be regulated in every respect, ordination excepted, by the Annual Conferences and the District Superintendents in the interval of the sessions of the General Conference.

CHAPTER XI

RETIRED BISHOPS

I. General Superintendent

¶ 210, § 1. A General Superintendent who has reached the age of seventy years may be released both from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from that of residential supervision, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops that he so elects; and when a General Superintendent has been released, in this manner, the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the Book Committee and to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A General Superintendent, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

§ 3. A General Superintendent at any age and for any reason deemed sufficient by the General Confer-

ence, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

II. Missionary Bishop

¶ 211, § 1. A Missionary Bishop who has reached the age of seventy years may be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops, the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Book Committee; and when a Missionary Bishop has been released, in this manner the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A Missionary Bishop, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

§ 3. A Missionary Bishop, at any age and for any reason deemed sufficient by the General Conference, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

III. General Provisions

¶ 212, § 1. A General Superintendent who has been released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions shall not preside thereafter over any Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission, nor make appointments, nor preside at the General Conference, but may take the chair tempo-

rarily in any Conference if requested to do so by the Bishop presiding. He shall be an advisory member of the Board of Bishops.

§ 2. When a Missionary Bishop is released in any of the cases aforesaid, he shall not preside thereafter in any Conference nor make appointments.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop who has been released under any of the foregoing provisions may continue to exercise all the rights and privileges which pertain to the Episcopal office, except as herein otherwise provided.

§ 4. The point of time midway between two General Conferences shall be deemed to fall at the division between May 15th and May 16th of the second calendar year following the year of the regular session of the General Conference.

§ 5. These provisions concerning the retirement of Bishops shall become effective at the beginning of the General Conference of 1916.

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PART. IV
LOCAL PREACHERS, EXHORTERS,
DEACONESSES

- I. LOCAL PREACHERS**
II. EXHORTERS
III. DEACONESSES

CHAPTER I

LOCAL PREACHERS

¶ 213. Wherever a District Conference exists, the powers hereinafter conferred on Quarterly Conferences in relation to Local Preachers and Exhorters shall be exercised only by the District Conference; but it shall not license any person to preach, nor renew the License of any person to preach or exhort, nor recommend any Local Preacher to the Annual Conference for Orders or for Recognition of Orders or for Reception on Trial, without the previous recommendation of the Quarterly Conference, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting of the Pastoral Charge of which such person or Preacher is a member, and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without a license.

¶ 214. The Quarterly Conference, where no District Conference exists, shall have authority:

§ 1. To license proper persons to preach; provided, they shall have been previously recommended by the Society of which they are members, or by the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; shall have passed a satisfactory examination in the studies prescribed for candidates for License to Preach; shall have been examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrines and Discipline, and also shall have answered satisfactorily the question, "Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco?"

§ 2. To examine Local Preachers in the Course of Study prescribed for them; to inquire into the gifts,

labors, and usefulness of each by name, and to renew their licenses annually when in the judgment of the Conference their gifts, grace, and usefulness, and their faithfulness and proficiency in study, warrant such renewal. In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the traveling ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular courses of study in our theological seminaries or in universities or colleges approved by the University Senate.

§ 3. To recommend to the Annual Conference Local Preachers who are suitable candidates for Deacons' or Elders' Orders (¶¶ 173, § 1; 176, § 1), for Recognition of Orders (¶ 162, §§1, 2), or for Reception on Trial (¶ 154, § 1); such candidates having been previously examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 4. To try, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel, or acquit any Local Preacher of the Circuit or Station against whom Charges shall have been preferred. ¶¶ 261-268.

NOTE.—For the Licensing, Amenability, and Appeal of Local Preachers in Missions in the United States and Territories, see ¶ 269, §1; 431, § 3.

¶ 215, § 1. Every Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, not having a Pastoral Charge, shall be a member of, and amenable to, the Quarterly Conference where he resides. And when he shall change his residence he shall procure from the Pastor of the Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and shall present it to the pastor of the Charge to which he removes. If he neglect to do this he shall not be recognized nor use his

office as a Local Preacher in the Charge to which he has removed; and he shall continue to be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge from which he has removed, which, if the neglect be long continued, after due notice may try him for persistent disobedience to the order of the Church, and upon conviction thereof deprive him of Ministerial Office and Credentials.

§ 2. If a Local Preacher be appointed to a Pastoral Charge, he shall procure from the Pastor of the Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and at its next session shall present it to the Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which he has been appointed, and his Church and his Quarterly Conference membership shall be in that Charge.

§ 3. An unordained Local Preacher, while serving as a regularly appointed Pastor of a Charge, shall be authorized to administer the rite of Baptism, and when the laws of the State permit, to solemnize matrimony.

§ 4. Whenever a Preacher is located or discontinued by an Annual Conference, he shall thereupon hold his Quarterly Conference membership where he resides at the time of location or discontinuance.

¶ 216. The District Superintendents and the Pastors are required to arrange the appointments, wherever it is practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

¶ 217. Every Local Preacher shall be enrolled in a Class, and meet with it. He shall make to the District or Quarterly Conference a report of his labors,

as follows: 1. Number of Sermons preached. 2. Number of Prayer Meetings attended. 3. Number of Class Meetings attended. 4. Number of Sunday Schools attended. 5. Number of Funerals conducted. 6. Miscellaneous Items. He shall also report (1) the Number of Marriages solemnized, with the names of the persons married; and (2) the Number of Baptisms administered, with the names and ages of the persons baptized, that due entry may be made by the Pastor in the Church Records.

¶ 218. Whenever a Local Preacher fills the place of a Pastor, with the approbation of the District Superintendent, he shall be paid for his time a sum proportioned to the allowance of the Pastor, which sum shall be paid by the Charge at the next Quarterly Meeting, if the Pastor whose place he filled was either sick or necessarily absent; and in other cases, out of the allowance of the Pastor.

¶ 219. If a Local Preacher be distressed, in his temporal circumstances on account of his service in a Pastoral Charge, he may apply to the Quarterly Conference, which may give him such relief as is judged proper, after the claims for ministerial support shall have been paid.

CHAPTER II

EXHORTERS

¶ 220. An Exhorter shall be constituted by the recommendation of the Class of which he is a member, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge, and a License signed by the Pastor.

¶ 221. The duties of an Exhorter are, to hold

Meetings for Prayer and Exhortation wherever opportunity is afforded, subject to the direction of the Pastor; to attend all the sessions of the District and Quarterly Conferences, and to present a written report to the same. He shall be subject to an annual examination of character in the Quarterly Conference, and a renewal of License, to be signed by the President thereof.

CHAPTER III.

DEACONESSSES

I. A Deaconess

¶ 222, § 1. A Deaconess is a woman who has been led by the Spirit and by the providence of God, to forego all other pursuits in life that she may devote herself wholly to the Christlike service of doing good; and who, having received this divine call, has been trained and tested during a probation of at least two years; and, after such preparation, has been approved by the Church and solemnly set apart to this vocation in the Church.

§ 2. No vow of perpetual service is required of a Deaconess. She renders a free-will service, and, so long as she is in good standing as a Deaconess, is entitled to a suitable support. Her relation as Deaconess being voluntary, she may withdraw from it at any time, but she shall give reasonable notice of her intention.

§ 3. The single aim and controlling purpose of the Deaconess is to minister, as Jesus did, to the wants

of a suffering, sorowing, and sin-laden world. Her work is to visit the sick, to pray with the dying, to comfort the sorrowing, to seek the wandering, to save the sinning, to relieve the poor, to care for the orphan, and to take up other Christlike service.

§ 4. The work of the Deaconess is a part of the work which the Church does in the Master's name, and Deaconess Homes and other authorized Deaconess Institutions are the agencies of the Church for the promotion of that part of its work which is done by the Deaconess.

II. Episcopal Supervision

¶ 223. The Board of Bishops shall have general oversight of the deaconess work of the Church. The General Deaconess Board shall annually report to the Board of Bishops such information as they may require.

III. General Deaconess Board

¶ 224, § 1. There shall be a General Deaconess Board composed of twenty-one members, three of whom shall be General Superintendents elected by the Board of Bishops. One member shall be nominated by the Board of Bishops from each General Conference District and three at large, and elected quadrennially by the General Conference. The persons so elected shall remain in office until their successors are elected. The Board of Bishops shall have authority to fill vacancies which may occur during the quadrennium.

§ 2. The Annual Meeting of the General Deaconess Board shall be held at such time and place as shall

be determined by the Board, due notice thereof having been given. This Board shall be incorporated, and shall elect all necessary officers and an executive committee. Said General Deaconess Board shall have control of all the Deaconesses in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but shall not disturb the property rights of any organization or local institution. The Board shall prescribe the Course of Study and shall have appellate authority on questions arising between institutions and individuals.

§ 3. The General Deaconess Board, with the consent of the Annual Conference, shall have power to authorize the establishment of any Deaconess Home or Institution in which Deaconesses are maintained or employed. During the interim between Annual Conference sessions, any such work may be commenced by the authority of the General Deaconess Board, with the consent of the Annual Conference Deaconess Board. The General Deaconess Board shall satisfy itself that there is evident need of the proposed institution in the locality designated; that it would not be likely to affect unfavorably any existing institution; that there is good prospect for its adequate support, and that its property, of whatever form, is not financially encumbered.

¶ 225, § 1. To increase the interest of the Preachers and people in the Deaconess Work, it is recommended that the General Deaconess Board publish in our Church papers each year a report or statement in behalf of this cause and a reference to the Relief Funds. This Board may also authorize conventions and other general meetings for the promotion of Deaconess Work.

§ 2. All questions of difference arising between

institutions or societies in the administration of Deaconess Work shall be presented in writing to the General Deaconess Board, at the earliest date practicable. The final determination shall be with the Board.

§ 3. The Deaconess being entitled to a suitable support, the General Deaconess Board shall fix the maximum allowance, and the support shall be as uniform as practicable throughout the Church.

§ 4. The General Deaconess Board shall have general supervision of all deaconess work throughout the Church, and shall approve general rules for the government of Deaconess Homes and other Deaconess institutions, and also for the government of all Deaconesses, however maintained or employed.

§ 5. The General Deaconess Board shall adopt a distinctive garb to be worn by all Deaconesses throughout the Church for their designation and for the protection of themselves and the office. It also shall adopt a distinctive garb to be worn by candidates during their probation. This Board shall secure legal protection of this garb as the distinctive dress for Deaconesses of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 6. Each form of Deaconess Administration shall be free to employ secretaries in the interest of Deaconess Work, and determine their duties.

§ 7. The German Central Deaconess Board may appoint a Superintendent of the German Methodist Deaconess Work in America, provided that such appointment shall be made without expense or financial responsibility to the General Conference, and shall in no wise conflict with the provisions of this chapter.

IV. In Foreign Fields

¶ 226, § 1. In the foreign fields under the supervision of General Superintendents there may be a Board composed of the Superintendent in charge and four other members to be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected quadrennially by the General Conference.

§ 2. In a mission field which is under the supervision of Missionary Bishops there may be a Board composed of the Missionary Bishops of that field and four other members, two at large and two from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, to be nominated by the said Missionary Bishops and elected quadrennially by the General Conference.

§ 3. These Boards are authorized to exercise within their respective fields the functions of the General Deaconess Board as provided herein. Vacancies shall be filled by the Bishop having jurisdiction over the field where the vacancy occurs.

V. Conference Deaconess Board

¶ 227, § 1. In each Annual Conference a Conference Deaconess Board of nine members, of whom at least three shall be women, shall be appointed by the Conference, the members to serve for three years; the election to be so arranged that three members shall be chosen each year.

§ 2. The Conference Deaconess Board is authorized to license Deaconesses; to transfer Deaconesses on the recommendation of the local Board of a Deaconess institution, or of the governing body of any one of the three forms of Deaconess Administration. It

shall encourage and promote the establishment and support of Deaconess institutions, as it deems wise within the limits of the Conference. It shall see that all Charters, Deeds, and other Conveyances of the property of Deaconess institutions conform strictly to the Discipline, and to the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated; that all property be well insured, and that the Disciplinary regulations for such property shall be observed.

§ 3. The Local Board of Management of Deaconess institutions shall report to the Conference Deaconess Board the number of Deaconesses connected with each institution, and how employed, the amount of money received and expended, and such other information as may be desired. Said Local Board shall have authority to assign the Deaconesses under its control to their respective fields of labor, subject to the approval of the Conference Board.

§ 4. The Conference Deaconess Board shall report to the Annual Conference at its session all information furnished by Local Boards of Management, and such other information as may be requested by the Annual Conference. It shall also annually report the same information to the General Deaconess Board. It shall secure the public presentation of this cause during the session of the Annual Conference.

VI. Regulations for Deaconesses

¶ 228, § 1. The Deaconess License may be given only to a candidate who is unmarried and over twenty-three years of age, provided that she be rec-

ommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member; that she present a certificate of good health from a reputable physician; and that when coming from a Deaconess Home, or other recognized Deaconess institution, she present a recommendation from the superintendent or manager of the same. She must have given two years of continuous probationary service; but two years of satisfactory study in a training school, or two years of service in a hospital, or two years divided between the training school and the hospital may be counted as an equivalent of these years of probationary service. She must have passed an examination satisfactory to the Annual Conference Board, as to her religious qualifications, and her knowledge of the Course of Study prescribed for Deaconesses by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 2. The Conference Board may license women thus prepared and recommended, and when so licensed they are entitled to consecration as Deaconesses according to the Order of Service prescribed by the Discipline. The consecration shall take place at the session of the Annual Conference whenever practicable; in other cases, at such place and time as the Conference Board shall determine.

§ 3. No woman shall be recognized or employed as a Deaconess of the Methodist Episcopal Church who fails to comply with the Disciplinary requirements. Each Deaconess shall wear the prescribed distinctive garb; and the wearing of this distinctive Deaconess garb by a member of the Church, who is not entitled to wear it, shall be regarded as a violation of our Order and Discipline.

§ 4. The annual renewal of the License of a Deacon-

ess by the Conference Board, on the recommendation of the Quarterly Conference of the Church with which she is connected, is necessary to her recognition and employment as a Deaconess.

§ 5. The annual approval of a Deaconess by the Annual Conference within whose bounds she holds her Deaconess membership, shall be necessary for her continuance in this vocation; and such approval may not be given without a recommendation from her Conference Board after the renewal of her License.

§ 6. A Deaconess who has resigned, or has been discontinued, shall return her License and Certificate of Consecration to the Conference Board having jurisdiction in her case, and shall refrain from wearing the distinctive Deaconess garb.

§ 7. Any Deaconess who has faithfully performed her duties, and who, for reasons satisfactory to the Board of Deaconess Administration with which she is connected, wishes to retire from the service, shall receive from that Board a certificate of honorable discharge. A Deaconess receiving such discharge, on her formal request, may be allowed to retain her License and Certificate of Consecration; but the date of her discharge must be inscribed on each by the president of the Conference Board. Any Deaconess having been honorably discharged may be restored to the service and receive a License at the discretion of the Conference Board from which she received her discharge, without reëxamination in the Course of Study or undergoing a new probation, but she shall present a recommendation from a Quarterly Conference and a new certificate of health. When a Deaconess who has been discharged is thus restored, the

President of the Conference Board shall inscribe the date of such restoration on her Certificate of Consecration.

§ 8. Each Deaconess shall be enrolled as a member in a Deaconess institution, or mother-house, or in the list of Deaconesses of one of the three forms of Deaconess Administration, and shall be subordinate to and directed by the superintendent in charge or other officer invested with this authority, except when absent on detached service. While engaged in such detached service the Deaconess shall bear a certificate of good standing from the institution or administration with which she is enrolled. The membership of a Deaconess may be changed from one Home to another within the bounds of a Conference by the mutual agreement of the Local Boards of Management of the Homes concerned. The change, when made, shall be duly noted on their records and promptly reported to and recorded by the Conference Board.

§ 9. A Deaconess, when detailed for service in a particular Church, or in connection with a particular institution, during such detached service, shall be under the direction of the Pastor of the Church or the officers of the institution in which she is engaged. A Deaconess engaged in other detached service outside of an organized Charge or in institutions not related to the Conference Board, shall be under the direction of the form of Deaconess Administration to which she belongs.

§ 10. A Deaconess may be transferred from one Conference to another by and with the consent of the two Conference Boards concerned, if such transfer has been arranged by the administrative

bodies concerned; and the change of a Deaconess from one Conference to another to meet a pressing emergency may be recorded as a transfer when approved by the Conference Boards concerned.

§ 11. When a Deaconess is to be transferred she shall receive a Certificate of Transfer issued and recorded by authority of her Conference Board, and, as soon as practicable, shall present the same to the Conference Board to whose jurisdiction she is transferred.

§ 12. A young woman, graduated from one of our advanced schools, or having an educational training satisfactory to the Deaconess Administration to which she belongs, but who is not free to enter the Deaconess Work for a lifelong service, but earnestly desires to engage in it as a duty for not less than three years, including the period of suitable training, may be received into any Deaconess institution on the approval of the governing body of the Deaconess Administration with which she is connected. Before approving any applicant she must have a recommendation from the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member; and also shall furnish evidence of satisfactory educational attainments, and make clear that she seeks this service from a conviction of duty and for Christ's sake. Those who are accepted shall be subject to the rules of the Deaconess Administration with which they are associated, and shall wear the probationer's garb. To continue in this relation they must receive the annual recommendation of the Quarterly Conference and the annual approval of the Conference Board.

§ 13. A Deaconess employed by the Church of which she is a member shall be a member of the

Quarterly Conference of such Church, when approved for membership therein, and shall report thereto.

VI. Retired Deaconess and Her Support

¶ 229, § 1. A Deaconess who is no longer able to continue her work on account of age, loss of health, or other disability, may be retired from active service and placed in the list of retired Deaconesses, by action of the governing body of the Deaconess Administration with which she is connected, based on information given by the Superintendent and Local Board of Management of the Deaconess institution of which she is a member.

§ 2. Should any Deaconess Administration and the Local Board unite in the judgment that a retired Deaconess would be able to render other needful service, and should concur in counseling her to engage therein, the Deaconess should be guided by this counsel; but her rights as a Retired Deaconess shall not be impaired by such service.

§ 3. Each retired Deaconess who entered the work under forty years of age, so long as she is approved by the Deaconess Administration with which she is connected, shall be entitled to receive from the Relief Fund of said Deaconess Administration such an allowance as may be determined by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 4. In order to provide adequate support for retired Deaconesses, the establishment of Permanent Deaconess Funds is approved, and it is recommended that further measures be taken.

§ 5. Each Deaconess institution shall pay into the

Permanent Deaconess Fund of the Deaconess Administration with which it is connected, \$10 per annum for each licensed Deaconess, and \$5 per annum for each probationer or unlicensed worker. Each station served by a Deaconess shall pay \$15 per year for each licensed Deaconess, and \$10 per year for each probationer or unlicensed Deaconess.

VII. Deaconess Institutions

¶ 230, § 1. No institution for the prosecution or maintenance of any form of Deaconess Work shall be recognized as a Deaconess Institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church until it has been authorized by the Annual Conference and approved by the General Deaconess Board. Every such Deaconess Institution shall conform to the regulations of this chapter.

§ 2. All property for Homes and other Deaconess institutions shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and this may be done by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the German Central Deaconess Board, or by a Board of Trustees elected by the local society with which the institution is connected.

§ 3. The provisions of this paragraph shall not disturb the tenure of existing Homes or Institutions operated for Deaconess Work, nor exclude any societies or associations which were engaged in Deaconess Work in May, 1900; but any of these are authorized to employ Deaconesses, and to establish and operate Homes and Institutions for the Deacon-

ess Work of the Methodist Episcopal Church, according to the provisions of this chapter.

§ 4. Training schools duly recognized as Deaconess Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church according to § 1 shall have the same opportunity for securing students from the whole Church as the other educational institutions of the Church.

§ 5. Each institution and each society which maintains or employs Deaconesses, or holds property for Deaconess uses within the bounds of the Annual Conference, shall report regularly to the Conference Board at least one month before the meeting of the Conference, according to such form as the General Deaconess Board shall adopt for use throughout the Church, and shall furnish such other information as its Conference Board may request.

¶ 231. The foregoing provisions shall apply to all Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions. But in those parts of Europe where the Deaconess Work is legally incorporated with an inspector appointed by the Annual Conference, any of the foregoing provisions not compatible with the articles of such legal corporation shall be inoperative.

PART V

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

- I. TRIAL OF A BISHOP
- II. TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP
- III. TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
- IV. TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL
- V. TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
- VI. TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER
- VII. APPEAL OF A BISHOP
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CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
- IX. RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS
- X. APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
- XI. APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT
OF APPEALS
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CHAPTER I TRIAL OF A BISHOP

NOTE.—Throughout Part V of the Discipline—Judicial Administration—the term “Immorality” is used to include any violation of the Moral Law.

I. Investigation

¶ 232. If a Bishop shall be accused of any violation of the moral law in the interval between sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendent within whose District the offense is said to have been committed shall call to his aid four Traveling Elders, which five Ministers shall carefully inquire into the case; and if, in their judgment, there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they, or a majority of them, shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case, unless such charges have already been prepared; shall send a copy of the same to the accused, and shall give notice thereof to one of the Bishops, furnishing him also with a copy of the charges. The Bishop so notified shall convene a Committee of Investigation to be composed of the Triers of Appeals, to be appointed as hereinafter provided, of four neighboring Conferences, over which Committee a Bishop shall preside. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number of the Committee below thirteen. The presiding Bishop shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep a correct record of the proceedings and of the testimony. The Committee

thus constituted shall have full power to investigate the charges in the case, and if it finds them sustained, shall suspend the accused from all ministerial functions and Church privileges until the ensuing General Conference. The President and Secretary shall sign the records when properly approved, and the President shall transmit the same, including the charges, specifications, documents, and evidence, to the General Conference, on which, and such other evidence as may be admitted, the case shall finally be determined. Additional charges and specifications may be presented to the General Conference; provided, the accused has been given due notice of the same.

¶ 233. In case of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose District the alleged offense is said to have occurred shall take with him two Traveling Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Bishop so offending. If he persists in his imprudence, the matter shall be investigated in the manner provided in ¶ 232, or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 234. If it be alleged that a violation of the moral law or an imprudence has been committed beyond the bounds of any District, the District Superintendent within the bounds of whose District the Bishop resides shall proceed as hereinbefore provided.

¶ 235. If a Bishop be charged with disseminating publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 232, or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 236. Complaint against the administration of a Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice of such complaint.

Investigation

II. Trial

¶ 237. When a Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in due form, appointing for this purpose a Select Number of its own Members, who shall be Ministers, to consist of not more than seventeen, nor fewer than eleven, the accused having the right to challenge for cause. Over this court a Bishop shall preside, and one of the secretaries of the General Conference shall act as Secretary. The Court as thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused Bishop, and to suspend him from the functions of his office, to depose him from the Ministry, or to expel him from the Church, as it may deem his offense requires. Its findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the General Conference as hereinafter provided, and shall be reported to the General Conference for entry on its Journal; and the records of the trial shall be placed in the custody of the Secretary of the General Conference, together with all the documents in the case, for preservation with the papers of the General Conference and for use in case of appeal.

CHAPTER II

TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP

I. Investigation

¶ 238. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of a violation of the moral law during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendents of the Annual Conference within which the offense is alleged to have been committed shall inquire into the same. If in their opinion the accusations appear to be well founded, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case, and shall send the same to the nearest Bishop or Missionary Bishop, and a copy thereof to the accused. The said Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall call not less than nine nor more than fifteen Effective Elders, all of whom shall be Foreign Missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to form a Committee of Investigation, and a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall preside over the same. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number below seven. If this Committee shall find the charges sustained, it shall suspend the accused until the ensuing General Conference.

¶ 239. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose district the alleged offense is said to have occurred, shall take with him three Effective Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Missionary Bishop so offending. If he persist in his imprudence, the case shall be investigated in the manner pre-

TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE ¶ 243

scribed in ¶ 238, or the offender may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 240. If a Missionary Bishop be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 238 or ¶ 241.

II. Trial

¶ 241. When a Missionary Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Missionary Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in the same manner as is prescribed for the trial of a Bishop.

¶ 242. Complaint against the administration of a Missionary Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice that such complaint would be made.

CHAPTER III

TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOTE.—In all matters of Judicial Administration the rights, duties, and responsibilities of Members of Mission Conferences are the same as those in Annual Conferences, and the procedure shall be the same.

I. Preliminary Investigation

¶ 243, § 1. If a Member of an Annual Conference be accused of any violation of the moral law in the

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interval between sessions of that body, his District Superintendent, or the Superintendent of the District within the bounds of which such acts are alleged to have taken place, shall call not less than five nor more than nine Members of the Annual Conference to investigate the same, and, if possible, bring the accused and accuser face to face. He shall preside throughout the proceedings, and shall certify and declare the judgment of the Committee.

§ 2. If the accused be a District Superintendent, three of the senior Effective Elders of his District shall inquire into the character of the allegations, and, if they deem an investigation necessary, shall call in the Superintendent of any District of the Annual Conference, who shall appoint a Committee of not less than five nor more than nine Elders of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member, to investigate the case; and he shall preside at the investigation; but in case there be only one District Superintendent in the Conference, or if the other District Superintendents be so related to the case as to make it improper for any one of them to serve, then the matter shall be reported by the three senior Effective Elders to the Bishop in Charge, who shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

§ 3. If in either case the charge be sustained, the accused shall be suspended by the Committee from all ministerial services and Church privileges until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. If in any such investigation the Committee finds that the evidence does not sustain the charge of immorality, but does show that the accused has been guilty of imprudent and unministerial conduct, it may so declare, and may suspend the offender from

all ministerial functions until the ensuing session of his Annual Conference, at which the whole case shall be disposed of as the said Conference may determine.

¶ 244. Any Member of an Annual Conference who shall hold religious service within the bounds of any Pastoral Charge, when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to hold such service, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct; and if, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he shall not refrain from such conduct, he shall be liable to charges and investigation, or trial.

¶ 245. If a Member of an Annual Conference be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 243, § 1. But if, after the charge is sustained, the Minister so offending shall solemnly promise the Committee of Investigation not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines in public or private, the Committee may waive suspension, that the case may be laid before the next Annual Conference, which shall determine the matter.

¶ 246. Whenever specific complaint is made in writing and signed by five responsible persons, Members or Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, charging a Teacher in one of our Theological Schools, who is a Minister, with violating his pledge to the Bishops of loyalty to our doctrine and polity, said complaint shall be lodged with the Superintendent within whose District the accused holds his Quarterly Conference membership, who shall care-

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fully consider the same; and if in his opinion the complaint is of sufficient gravity to require an investigation, he shall immediately proceed according to the provisions of the Discipline in ¶ 243.

¶ 247. If the Teacher referred to in ¶ 246 be a layman or a Local Preacher, the complaint shall be lodged with the Preacher in Charge of the Church to which the said Teacher belongs, who shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline for the investigation or trial of members or Local Preachers.

¶ 248. If in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, a Member of an Annual Conference fail to do the work to which he was duly appointed, except in case of sickness, serious disability, or other unavoidable circumstances, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 243, § 1. If the District Superintendent fails so to do, he shall be accountable therefor to the next Annual Conference.

¶ 249. In cases of improper temper, words, or actions, the Minister so offending shall be admonished by his senior in office. Should a second transgression take place, one, two, or three Ministers are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 243, § 1.

¶ 250. When a Member of an Annual Conference fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, the District Superintendent shall appoint two judicious Members of the Church and one Minister to inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has acted dishonestly or contracted

debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the case shall be disposed of according to ¶ 243, § 1.

¶ 251. Any Member of an Annual Conference residing beyond the bounds of his own Conference shall be subject to the investigation prescribed in ¶ 243, under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he resides or within which he is employed, by a Committee of Members of that Conference. If he reside or be employed within the bounds of a Mission, he shall be subject to investigation under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he holds his Quarterly Conference Membership or of the Superintendent of the Mission and a Committee of Members of the same. If he be the Superintendent of the Mission, the Bishop or Missionary Bishop in charge shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

¶ 252. In all the foregoing cases the papers, including the record of the investigation, charges, evidence, and findings, shall be transmitted to the ensuing session of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member; on which papers, and on such other evidence as may be admitted, and also upon such other charges or specifications as may be presented, due notice of the same having been given to the accused, the case shall be determined.

¶ 253. An Annual Conference may entertain and try charges against its Members though no investigation upon them has been held, or though the investigation has not resulted in suspension, due notice having been given the accused.

¶ 254. When it is alleged of a Member of an Annual Conference that he is so unacceptable or inefficient as to be no longer useful in his work, or that,

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without reason of impaired health of himself or his family disqualifying him for pastoral work, he engages in secular business, his case shall be referred to a Committee of five or more Members of his Conference for inquiry; and if said Committee shall find the allegation sustained, and shall so recommend, the Conference may request him to locate. If he shall refuse, and the conditions complained of continue, the Conference, at its next session, after formal trial and conviction, may locate him without his consent. But he shall have the right of appeal to a Judicial Conference, which may restore him.

II. Maladministration

¶ 255, § 1. A Minister shall be answerable to his Conference on a charge of corrupt, negligent, or partisan administration, but not for errors in judgment.

§ 2. Errors or defects in Judicial Proceedings shall be duly considered when presented on appeal. But Errors of Law or Administration connected with investigations under ¶ 243 which are not followed by trials at Conference, and Errors of Law made by a District Superintendent in cases of appeal, are to be corrected by the President of the next Annual Conference on appeal in open session, and the Conference may also order just and suitable remedies, if injury has resulted from such errors.

§ 3. Errors of Administration not connected with Judicial Proceedings may be presented in writing to the Annual Conference, for its judgment thereon; and the Annual Conference may order just and suitable remedies when the rights of Ministers or mem-

bers of the Church have been injuriously affected by such errors.

III. Trial

¶ 256. The Annual Conference, at its discretion, may try an accused Member by one of the following methods:

§ 1. The trial, including the examination of witnesses, may be by the Conference in full session.

§ 2. The Bishop may appoint an Elder as a Commissioner to take the evidence in the case, in whole or in part; and said Commissioner shall cause a correct record of the proceedings in the case and of the evidence, signed by the witnesses respectively, to be laid before the Annual Conference; upon which evidence and such other evidence as may be admitted the case shall be determined.

§ 3. The Conference may appoint from its Members a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen, to try the accused, who shall have the right to challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of a Bishop, or of a Chairman whom the President of the Conference shall have appointed, and one or more of the Secretaries of the Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules which govern in such proceedings; and they shall make a faithful report in writing of all their proceedings, duly attested by the President and Secretary of the Select Number, to the Secretary of the Annual Conference before its final adjournment, and deliver up to him therewith the bill of charges, the evidence taken, and the decision rendered, with all documents brought into the trial.

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§ 4. But if a case cannot be tried during the session for want of testimony, the Annual Conference may refer it to one of the District Superintendents, who shall proceed as directed in ¶ 243, § 1, and the Conference shall determine whether the case seems to be of such gravity as to require that the Minister be left without appointment until investigation shall be held.

¶ 257. When a Minister is tried on a charge of immorality, and the Annual Conference, or the Select Number, shall find that this charge is not sustained by the evidence, but that the Minister has been proven guilty of "high imprudence and unministerial conduct," it may declare this fact, and may by this finding reprove the offender, or may subject him to suspension, or deprivation of his Ministerial Office and Credentials.

¶ 258, § 1. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry without being expelled from the Church, he shall have his membership in the Church where he resided at the time of his deposition.

§ 2. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry or expelled from the Church for teaching publicly or privately doctrines contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, he shall not again be licensed to preach until he shall have satisfied the Conference from which he was deposed or expelled, and shall have promised in writing to desist wholly from disseminating such doctrine.

¶ 259. After a Minister shall have been tried regularly and expelled he shall have no Privileges of

Society or Sacraments in our Church, without contrition, reformation, and confession, satisfactory to the Annual Conference by which he was expelled.

¶ 260. When a Member of an Annual Conference is accused of immorality and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Annual Conference may permit him to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Complaints." If formal charges of immorality have been presented, he may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Charges"; and if thus "Withdrawn under Complaints," or "Withdrawn under Charges," his relation to the Church shall be the same as if he had been expelled.

CHAPTER IV

TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL

¶ 261. A Preacher on Trial in an Annual Conference, in reference to Amenability and Appeal is considered as a Local Preacher; but in his case the District Superintendent shall perform the duties which are assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the case of an accused Local Preacher.

CHAPTER V

TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ 262. When a Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, is accused of any violation of the moral law, the Preacher in Charge shall call a Committee of In-

vestigation, consisting of three or more Local Preachers, before which it shall be the duty of the accused to appear, and by which, if the charge be sustained, he shall be suspended from all Ministerial services and Church privileges until the next District or Quarterly Conference; which Conference shall try the case, and if the accused be found guilty the Conference shall suspend, deprive of ministerial office and credentials, or expel him. (¶ 214, § 4.) But a Local Preacher may be tried by a District or Quarterly Conference without preliminary investigation, provided due notice shall have been given him.

¶ 263. Should the District Conference having jurisdiction in the case of an accused Local Preacher judge it expedient to try him by a Select Number, it may appoint not less than nine nor more than fifteen of its Members for that purpose, the accused having the right of challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of the President of the District Conference, or of an Elder appointed by him, and a Secretary appointed by the said Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules applicable thereto; and the Secretary shall make a correct report in writing of all the proceedings and evidence to the Secretary of the District Conference, and shall deliver to him all the papers in the case.

¶ 264, § 1. In case of improper temper, words, or actions, the Local Preacher so offending shall be admonished by the Preacher in Charge. Should a second transgression take place, one or two members of the church are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the case shall be investigated as provided in ¶ 262, or he shall be tried at the next

District or Quarterly Conference, and, if found guilty and impenitent, he shall be expelled from the Church.

§ 2. If, on due trial by the District or Quarterly Conference, a Local Preacher be found neglectful of his duties as a Local Preacher or unacceptable in his Ministry, he may be deprived of his ministerial office; in which case, if he be ordained, the District Superintendent shall require him to deliver up his credentials, that they may be returned to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. A Local Preacher who shall hold religious services within the bounds of a Pastoral Charge when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to do so, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct, and if he persist, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he may be brought to investigation or trial, either or both of which may take place in the charge and under the proper officers of the Church where the forbidden service has been held.

¶ 265. If a Local Preacher disseminate, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 262, 263.

NOTE.—Touching complaints against a Local Preacher for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶¶ 246, 247.

¶ 266. If a Local Preacher shall fail in business, or contract debts which he is not able to pay, the Preacher in Charge shall appoint three judicious members of the Church to inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent;

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and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly, or contracted debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 262, 263.

¶ 267. If, in the judgment of the District Superintendent, a fair and impartial trial cannot be had in the Quarterly Conference where the accused holds his membership, the District Superintendent may refer the case for trial to some other Quarterly Conference within the bounds of his District.

¶ 268. If the trial is by the Quarterly Conference, the accused shall have the right of challenge for cause. If by reason of said challenge or other cause the number of the members of the Quarterly Conference present shall fall below seven, which number shall be required for a quorum in case of any such trial, the Quarterly Conference, if the District Superintendent so request, shall adjourn to a subsequent date, to be named by him, to try the case; or, the District Superintendent may refer it to some other Quarterly Conference in his District.

¶ 269, § 1. In Missions in the United States, its Territories, and insular possessions the power to try Local Preachers shall remain with the respective Quarterly Conferences; but Local Preachers so tried and convicted shall have the right of appeal to the Annual Meeting of the Mission.

§ 2. The Ministerial members of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall constitute a Judicial Conference to hear appeals of Local Preachers convicted at an Annual Meeting of a Mission; such Judicial Conference to be presided over by a Bishop.

CHAPTER VI

TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER

I. Immoral Conduct

¶ 270, § 1. A member of the Church accused of a violation of the moral law shall be brought to trial.

§ 2. A member of the Church, who, after private reproof and admonition by the Pastor or Class Leader, persists in using, buying, or selling intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or who signs a petition in favor of granting a license for the sale of such liquors, or who signs a petition of consent for the sale of such liquors, or who procures a license for the sale of such liquors, or who becomes bondsman for any person or persons engaged in such traffic, or who rents his property as a place in which or on which to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquors, shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, shall be expelled.

II. Imprudent Conduct

¶ 271. In cases of neglect of duties of any kind; imprudent conduct; indulging sinful tempers or words; dancing; playing at games of chance; attending theaters, horse-races, circuses, dancing parties, or patronizing dancing schools, or taking such other amusements as are obviously of misleading or questionable moral tendency; or dis-

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obedience to the order and Discipline of the Church—on the first offense, let private reproof be given by the Pastor or Class Leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On the second offense the Pastor or Class Leader may take with him one or two discreet members of the Church. On the third offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, he shall be expelled.

III. Neglect of Means of Grace

¶ 272. If a member of the Church shall habitually neglect the means of grace, such as the Public Worship of God, the Lord's Supper, family and private Prayer, searching the Scriptures, Class Meetings, and Prayer Meetings, the Preacher in Charge shall visit him and explain to him the consequences if he continue his neglect. If he do not amend, he shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty of willful neglect, he shall be expelled.

IV. Causing Dissension

¶ 273. If a member of the Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissension in the Church by inveighing against its Doctrines or Discipline, its Ministers, or in any other manner, the person so offending shall first be reproved by the Preacher in Charge; and if he persist in such pernicious practice, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

NOTE.—For the method of disposing of complaints against a layman for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶ 247.

V. Disagreement in Business—Arbitration

¶ 274. In case of any disagreement between two or more members of the Church concerning business transactions, which cannot be settled by the parties, the Preacher in Charge shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the parties that such disagreement be submitted to arbitration. If this method of settlement be agreed upon, two arbitrators shall be chosen by one party, and two by the other, which four shall choose a fifth. The said arbitrators shall be members of our Church, who have no personal or pecuniary interests in the result. The Preacher in Charge shall preside, and the Disciplinary forms of trial shall be observed. If either party refuse to abide by the judgment of the arbitrators, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show sufficient cause for such refusal, he shall be expelled.

¶ 275. If any member of the Church, in case of debt or other dispute, shall refuse to refer the matter to arbitration, when recommended to do so by the Preacher in Charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show that the case is of such a nature as to require and justify such a course, he shall be expelled.

¶ 276. If, in the case of debt or dispute, one of the parties is a Minister, the duties assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the foregoing paragraphs shall be performed by the District Superintendent of the Minister concerned. If both be Ministers, the District Superintendent of either may act in the case.

VI. Insolvency

¶ 277, § 1. Preachers in Charge are required to execute faithfully the rules against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering no one to remain in the Church who is found guilty of fraud.

§ 2. To prevent scandal, when any member of the Church fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, two or three judicious members of the Church, designated by the Preacher in charge, shall inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if they believe that he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a reasonable probability of paying, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

¶ 278. In all the foregoing cases of trial enumerated in this chapter the accused member shall be brought to trial before a Committee of not less than five members of the Church. They shall be chosen by the Preacher in Charge, and, if he judge it necessary, he may select them from any part of the District. The accused may challenge for cause. The Preacher in Charge shall preside at the trial.

VII. Penalties

¶ 279. If the accused person be found guilty by the decision of a majority of the Committee, the Preacher in Charge shall then and there pronounce the sentence of expulsion.

¶ 280. But if, in view of mitigating circumstances and of humble and penitent confession, the

Committee find that a lower penalty would be proper, it may impose censure on the offender, at its discretion, or suspend him from all Church privileges for a definite time.

¶ 281. An expelled person shall have no Privileges of Society or of the Sacraments of the Church without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation.

CHAPTER VII APPEAL OF A BISHOP

¶ 282, § 1. A Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall have the right to appeal to the General Conference in case of an adverse decision by the trial court hereinbefore prescribed in such cases; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he notify the Secretary of the General Conference of his intention to appeal. All such appeals shall be heard and determined by the General Conference Committee on the Judiciary.

§ 2. If during the session of a General Conference a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall have been convicted, the General Conference shall extend the term of service of the Committee on the Judiciary until it shall have disposed of a possible appeal in the case.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the General Conference, on receiving notice of such appeal; to inform the senior effective Bishop, whose duty it shall be, after conference with the parties in interest, to fix the time and place for the hearing of the appeal, and to instruct the Secretary of the General Conference to serve due notice of the same to all concerned.

¶ 283 APPEAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

CHAPTER VIII APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

¶ 283. The several Annual Conferences shall at each session select five Elders, men of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as Triers of Appeals, and also two reserve Triers of Appeals. The reserves shall serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals.

¶ 284. When notice of an appeal has been given to the President of an Annual Conference, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to designate three Annual Conferences conveniently near to that from the decision of which the appeal is taken, and the Triers of Appeals of such Conferences shall constitute a Judicial Conference. He shall fix also the time and place of its session. He shall also give notice thereof to the said Triers of Appeals and to all others concerned. Such Judicial Conference shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any Conference conveniently near, due notice having been given to all concerned.

¶ 285. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so that the number of Triers of Appeals present and qualified shall not fall below nine, which number shall be required for a quorum.

¶ 286. A Bishop shall preside in a Judicial Conference and shall decide all questions of law arising in its proceedings, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. The Judicial Conference shall ap-

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point a Secretary, who shall keep a faithful record of all the proceedings, and at the close of the hearing shall transmit the records made and the papers submitted in the case, or certified copies thereof, to the Secretary of the General Conference, to be filed for use by the General Conference in case of appeal. In all cases the findings of the Judicial Conference shall be reported by its Secretary to the Secretary of the Annual Conference whose membership is affected thereby, and if no further appeal shall have been taken on a question of law, the same shall be published in the Minutes of said Annual Conference.

¶ 287. In all cases of trial and conviction of Members of an Annual Conference, an appeal shall be allowed to a Judicial Conference, constituted as hereinbefore provided, if the condemned person, within thirty days after his conviction, shall signify in writing to the Secretary of the Annual Conference his intention to appeal.

¶ 288. Appeals from an Annual Conference within the United States, not easily accessible, at the discretion of the President thereof may be heard by a Judicial Conference selected from among more accessible Conferences. Appeals from an Annual or Mission Conference not in the United States may be heard at the discretion of the Bishop in charge thereof, due regard being had to the rights and interests of all concerned, either by a Judicial Conference called by said Bishop from neighboring foreign Conferences, or by a Judicial Conference called by him to meet at or near New York, or by the General Conference through a special Appellate Committee appointed for the purpose.

¶ 289. When the case of any Minister who has

been suspended or expelled is remanded for a new trial, his suspension from all ministerial functions shall continue until the next ensuing session of the Annual Conference.

¶ 290. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended by a Committee of Investigation in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, and subsequently be found guilty by his Conference and expelled, his claim upon the funds of the Conference shall cease from the time of his suspension. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended and afterward be restored, he shall have no claim upon the Pastoral Charge nor upon the funds of the Conference during the period of such suspension.

¶ 291. The General Conference, on appeal, or on Complaint, shall carefully review the decisions of Questions of Law contained in the records and documents transmitted to it from Judicial Conferences; and in case of serious error therein, shall take such action as justice may require. The papers submitted shall be returned by the Secretary of the Committee on Judiciary to the Chairman of the Delegation of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member.

CHAPTER IX

RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS

I. When Voluntarily Surrendered

¶ 292. When an ordained Minister of any class who is in good standing shall surrender his Credentials for any reason, the Annual Conference at

any subsequent time may restore the same upon the recommendation of the District or Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he has membership as a Local Preacher.

II. When Involuntarily Surrendered

¶ 293. When a Member of an Annual Conference by expulsion or otherwise shall have been deprived of his Credentials, they shall be filed with the papers of his Conference; and in case the said Member has come to us from another Church, so that he holds the certificate of our Church and his original credentials indorsed by our Church, he shall be required to surrender to his Conference both the certificate of our Church and the original Credentials bearing our indorsement. If at any future time he shall give satisfactory evidence to said Annual Conference of his amendment, and procure a certificate from the Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he resides, or from an Annual Conference which may have received him on Trial, recommending to the Annual Conference of which he was formerly a Member the restoration of his Credentials, the said Annual Conference may restore them.

¶ 294. When a Local Elder or Deacon shall have been expelled or deprived of his Ministerial Office, the District Superintendent shall require of him the Credentials of his ordination, to be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the expulsion has taken place. Should he, at any future time, produce to the Annual Conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of his

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Quarterly Conference, his Credentials may be restored to him.

CHAPTER X

APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ 295. In case of conviction, a Local Preacher shall be allowed to appeal to the next Annual Conference; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he shall signify in writing to the President or Secretary of the District or Quarterly Conference by which he was tried, his determination to appeal; and the said Annual Conference, in full session, or by a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen shall hear the appeal. If the hearing be by a Select Number, the Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge. The decision of said Annual Conference shall be the final determination of the case, subject only to an appeal to the General Conference by either party on Questions of Law.

¶ 296. An appeal by a Local Preacher from a Quarterly Conference within the jurisdiction of a Mission shall be to the Annual Meeting of the said Mission.

CHAPTER XI

APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT OF APPEALS

¶ 297, § 1. At the Fourth Quarterly Conference of each year each Pastoral Charge shall select from among the members of the Church one person of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as a Trier of Appeals for Members.

§ 2. When due notice of appeal has been given to the Superintendent of any District, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to convene a Court of Appeals, which shall be constituted of such of the Triers of Appeals on his District as he shall summon, the number so summoned by him to be not more than fifteen nor less than nine; but the Trier of Appeals of the Charge to which the accused member belongs shall not be one of the number so summoned. The District Superintendent shall give not less than ten nor more than thirty days' notice of the time and place at which the Court of Appeals will assemble, and such notice shall be given to all concerned. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge; provided, that the Triers of Appeals present and ready to proceed with the hearing shall not fall below seven, which number shall constitute a quorum. The District Superintendent shall preside.

§ 3. Said Court of Appeals shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any Pastoral Charge on the District, due notice having been given to all concerned.

§ 4. If the District Superintendent shall find the convening of such a Court to be impracticable, or seriously inconvenient to the parties involved, with due regard to the rights and wishes of the Appellant, he shall have the appeal heard by a Quarterly Conference within his District; in which case no one who was in any way connected with the trial shall sit as a member of the Quarterly Conference, to hear the appeal.

¶ 298. Any member of the Church against whom judgment is rendered by a Committee of Trial, may

appeal from such judgment to the Court of Appeals for Members as hereinafter constituted, by giving written notice of his intention to the Preacher in Charge and to the District Superintendent within thirty days after said judgment is rendered.

CHAPTER XII

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

I. Testimony and Notice

¶ 299, § 1. The testimony of a witness who is not a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall not be rejected on that account.

§ 2. The testimony of an absent witness may be taken before the Preacher in Charge where such witness resides, or before a Preacher appointed by the District Superintendent of the District within which such witness resides; provided, that sufficient notice of the time and place of taking such testimony shall have been given to the adverse party.

§ 3. If in any case the accused person, after due notice has been given him, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the time and place set for a hearing, the investigation or trial may proceed in his absence.

II. Records

¶ 300, § 1. In all investigations or trials the records should be accurate and full; they shall include the proceedings in detail and all the documents admitted, together with the charges, specifications, and findings, and shall be approved and

attested by the President and Secretary. In all investigations the Presiding Officer shall appoint a Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings and documents, of which records, when properly attested, the said Presiding Officer shall be the custodian. The custodian shall deliver the entire record to the President or Secretary of the Conference or Committee to which the case shall go for final disposition.

§ 2. In the trial of a member of the Church the Preacher in Charge shall appoint the Secretary, and the said Preacher in Charge shall be the custodian of the records, when properly attested. If no appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the Recording Steward for preservation. If an appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the President of the proper Appellate Court, and after they have been used in this Court they shall be returned by the Secretary to the Recording Steward of the Charge from which they came.

§ 3. The Secretaries of Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences and of the General Conference shall be the custodians of the records, which in all cases shall be made by them or their Assistants, of all trials occurring in their bodies respectively; and in case of appeal, they shall deliver said records to the President or Secretary of the proper Appellate Court. After the said appeal has been heard, the records shall be returned to the Secretary of the Conference from which they came.

III. Counsel

¶ 301, § 1. In all cases of investigation or trial where counsel has not been provided for either the

Church or the accused, such counsel shall be appointed as follows: In the investigation of a Bishop or of a Missionary Bishop counsel shall be appointed by the officer presiding; and in case of a trial, counsel shall be appointed by the General Conference. Such counsel shall be either Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. In the investigation of a Member of an Annual Conference, counsel shall be appointed by the District Superintendent; and in case of trial the appointment shall be by the Annual Conference. In either case such counsel shall be Members of an Annual Conference.

§ 3. In all other cases, counsel shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer and shall be Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

IV. Charges

¶ 302, § 1. In no case shall charges or testimony be held as privileged so as to protect the accuser from the consequences of false and malicious prosecution; and both Ministers and members should be warned against making hasty or insufficiently supported charges.

§ 2. Amendments may be made to a bill of charges up to the time of the opening of the trial, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, provided they relate to the form of statement only and do not change the nature of the alleged offense and do not introduce new matter of which the accused has not had due notice.

§ 3. Amendments to charges against Members of

an Annual Conference shall be presented in the Conference and ruled upon by the Bishop presiding before the case is committed to the Select Number for trial.

§ 4. A charge of slander shall not be entertained unless signed by the person alleged to have been slandered.

V. Trials

¶ 303, § 1. In all cases of investigation or trial the required notification to persons accused and to such witnesses as either party may name shall be in writing, and shall issue in the name of the Church and be signed by the President or the last appointed Secretary of the tribunal which is to investigate or try the case. Said notification shall be delivered personally or sent by registered mail to the last known post-office address of the person to be notified.

§ 2. In all cases, sufficient time shall be allowed for the person to appear at the given place and time, and for the accused to prepare for the investigation or trial; and the President of the tribunal to investigate or try the case shall decide what constitutes "sufficient time."

§ 3. In all cases of investigation or trial both parties shall have the right to challenge for cause, and it shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to see, if possible, that there be present a sufficient number of properly qualified persons as substitutes to prevent the number from being reduced below that required for the investigation or trial.

§ 4. In case of investigation, trial, or appeal the Presiding Officer shall not deliver a charge, review-

ing or explaining the evidence or setting forth the merits of the case; but he shall remain and preside until the judgment is expressed, the findings completed, and the record signed; but without expressing any opinion on the law or facts unless the parties in interest be called in.

VI. Appeals

¶ 304, § 1. An appeal shall not be allowed in any case in which the accused has failed or refused to be present in person or by counsel at his trial. But appeals, regularly taken, shall be heard by the proper Appellate Court unless it shall appear to the said Court that the Appellant has forfeited his right to appeal by misconduct, such as refusal to abide by the finding of the Trial Court, withdrawal from the Church, or failure to appear in person or by counsel to prosecute the appeal.

§ 2. The right of appeal when once forfeited by neglect or otherwise cannot be revived by any subsequent Appellate Court.

§ 3. The right to take and to prosecute an appeal shall not be affected by the death of the person entitled to such right. His heirs or legal representatives may prosecute such appeal as he would be entitled to do if he were living.

§ 4. In no case shall an appeal operate as a suspension of sentence. The finding of the Trial Court must stand until it is modified or reversed by the proper Appellate Court.

§ 5. The records and documents of the trial, and these only, shall be used as evidence in the hearing of any appeal.

§ 6. In all cases where an appeal is made, and admitted by the Appellate Court, after the charges, findings, and evidence have been read and the arguments concluded, the parties shall withdraw, and the Appellate Court shall consider and decide the case. It may reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of the Trial Court, or it may remand the case for a new trial. It may determine what penalty, not higher than that affixed at the trial, shall be imposed. If it neither reverse, in whole or in part, the judgment of the Trial Court, nor remand the case for a new trial, nor modify the penalty, that judgment shall stand. But the Appellate Court shall not reverse the judgment, nor remand the case for a new trial on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

§ 7. In all cases the right of appeal shall be exhausted when the case has been heard once on its merits in the proper Appellate Court; but Questions of Law may be carried on appeal, step by step, to the General Conference.

§ 8. If in any case of appeal of a Member of an Annual Conference, of a Bishop, or of a Missionary Bishop, the Appellate Court is convinced that new evidence has been discovered material to the issue, it may remand the case for a new trial.

§ 9. If, within sixty days after the conviction of a member of the Church, he shall make application in writing to the Preacher in Charge for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and submit therewith a written statement of the same, and if it shall appear to the Preacher in Charge that such evidence is material to the issue involved, he shall grant a new trial.

§ 10. In no case shall a new trial be granted upon

newly discovered evidence which could have been obtained for the trial in the exercise of due diligence, or which is merely cumulative in its effect.

§ 11. In all cases of appeal the Appellant, at the time he gives notice of his appeal, shall furnish to the officer receiving such notice, and to the counsel for the Church, a written statement of the grounds of his appeal; and the hearing in the Appellate Court shall be limited to the grounds set forth in such statement.

§ 12. When any Appellate Court shall reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of a Trial Court, or remand the case for a new trial, or change the penalty imposed by that court, it shall return to the Annual Conference or to the secretary of the Trial Court a statement of the grounds of its action.

§ 13. The order of appeals on Questions of Law shall be as follows: From the decision of the Preacher in Charge to the District Superintendent presiding in the Quarterly or District Conference; from the decision of the District Superintendent to the Bishop presiding in the Annual Conference; and from the decision of the Bishop to the Judicial Conference, in case of appeal; otherwise to the General Conference.

§ 14. When an appeal is taken on a Question of Law, written notice of the same shall be served on the Secretary of the body in which the decision has been rendered, whose duty it shall be to see that an exact statement of the question submitted and the ruling of the Chair thereon be entered on the Journal. He shall then make and certify a copy of the said question and ruling and transmit the same to the Secretary of the body to which the appeal goes. The Secretary who thus receives said certified copy shall

present the same in open Conference and as soon as practicable lay it before the Presiding Officer for his ruling thereon; which ruling must be rendered before the final adjournment of that body, that said ruling together with the original question and ruling may be entered on the Journal of that Conference. The same course shall be followed in all subsequent appeals.

present the same in open Conference and as soon as practicable lay it before the President for his ruling thereon; which ruling must be rendered before the final adjournment of that body, that will bring together with the original question and ruling may be entered on the Journal of that Conference. The same course shall be followed in all subsequent appeals.

I. MINISTRY
II. CHURCH PROPERTY
PART VI
TEMPORAL ECONOMY

- I. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT
- II. CHURCH PROPERTY
- III. LADIES' AID SOCIETIES

CHAPTER I

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

I. Stewards

¶ **305.** There shall be not less than three nor more than twenty-one Stewards in each Circuit or Station. After each annual election one of the Stewards shall be appointed by the Quarterly Conference a Recording Steward, and one a District Steward. But when two or more Pastoral Charges shall be united, the Stewards of the several Pastoral Charges shall hold office until the Quarterly Conference shall elect a new Board.

¶ **306.** Let the Stewards be persons of solid piety who are members of the Church in the Pastoral Charge, who both know and love Methodist Doctrine and Discipline, and are of good natural and acquired abilities to transact the temporal business of the Church.

¶ **307.** The Pastor shall have the right to nominate the Stewards, but the Quarterly Conference shall confirm or reject such nominations. The Stewards elected at the Fourth Quarterly Conference shall enter upon the discharge of their duties on the adjournment of the next Annual Conference, and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.

¶ **308.** The duties of Stewards are: To take an exact account of all the money or other resources received for the support of the Ministers in the Charge;

and to apply the same as the Discipline directs; to make an accurate return of every expenditure of money, whether for the Ministers or the poor members of the Church; to seek the needy and distressed in order to relieve and comfort them; to inform the Ministers of any sick or disorderly persons; to tell the Ministers what they think wrong in them; to attend the Quarterly Meetings, the Official Board Meetings, and the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge; to give advice, if asked, in planning the Circuit; to attend committees for the application of money to Churches; to give counsel in matters of arbitration; to provide the elements for the Lord's Supper; to write circular letters to the Societies in the Pastoral Charge, exhorting them to greater liberality, if need be, and urging systematic giving in accordance with Special Advice VII, and also to let them know, when occasion requires, the state of the temporal concerns of the Charge.

¶ 309. Stewards are accountable for the faithful performance of their duties to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge, which shall have power to dismiss or change them at pleasure.

II. Stewards and Ministerial Support

¶ 310. The more effectually to raise the amount necessary to meet the estimates made for the support of Ministers, let the Stewards at the beginning of the year estimate the amount needed monthly. Then let them ascertain from each member of the Church, and, as far as practicable, from each attendant of the Congregation, what each will give as his monthly contribution.

¶ 311. Let these sums be entered by the Recording Steward in a book which he shall keep as Treasurer of the Board of Stewards. If the total amount of these sums shall not equal the amount needed monthly, then let the Stewards apportion the deficiency among all such as are willing to assume such deficiency, setting down to each person, with his consent, the additional amount which they think he ought to pay.

¶ 312. Let the Stewards then adopt and carry out a Financial Plan by which everyone, except such as prefer to make weekly contributions through their Class Leaders, shall have the opportunity of regularly contributing each month or oftener, not grudgingly or of necessity, the sum which has been pledged by him. Let these contributions be paid regularly to the Recording Steward or Class Leader, and be brought by them to the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, Official Board, or Quarterly Conference, as the case may be; and let the Stewards report to the first Quarterly Conference of each year the details of the Financial Plan. Also, let them report to each subsequent Quarterly Conference whether the Financial Plan, including the further directions contained in this chapter, has been faithfully carried out. The Recording Steward shall keep an individual account of all the pledges and contributions, and shall pay the money collected under the direction of the Stewards to the Ministers authorized to receive it.

¶ 313. The Stewards of each Pastoral Charge shall provide for raising the amount apportioned to it by the Annual Conference for the support of Conference Claimants, either by a public collection, or in such

other ways as they may deem best. The amount apportioned shall be a claim for Ministerial Support, in common with that of the Pastor, the District Superintendent, and the Episcopal Fund, and the moneys raised for Ministerial Support shall be applied *pro rata* to these several claims on the basis of the authorized apportionment for each.

III. Support of Pastors

¶ 314, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge at the session immediately preceding the Annual Conference to appoint an Estimating Committee, consisting of three or more members of the Church; which committee may be authorized by vote of the Quarterly Conference to determine the minimum amount the Charge shall pay for Pastoral Support for the ensuing Conference year, and report the same to the Superintendent of the District before the next session of the Annual Conference; to which amount shall be added the amount apportioned for the support of Conference Claimants, Bishops, and the District Superintendent; and the Stewards shall provide for raising the sum thus required in accordance with ¶¶ 311, 313. In case of failure to authorize the Estimating Committee as above, or in case it may seem desirable to increase the estimate, the Committee, after conferring with the Pastor, shall report the amount of support agreed upon for that year to the first Quarterly Conference, to the action of which the report shall be subject.

§ 2. The Traveling and Moving Expenses of the

Ministers shall not be included in the estimate, but shall be paid by the Stewards as a separate item.

¶ 315. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference, whenever practicable, to organize Conference Sustentation Fund Societies to supplement the inadequate ministerial support in those Pastoral Charges which are unable to furnish a sufficient support.

¶ 316. Should the people among whom a Member of an Annual Conference has labored fail to pay him his allowance, he may present a claim for the same to the Conference, and the Conference may authorize the Conference Stewards to pay a part or all of said claim out of funds at its disposal for such purpose, and shall include in its report the name of the Pastoral Charge with the amount paid. In no case, however, shall the Church or the Conference be held accountable for a final deficiency.

IV. District Stewards and Support of District Superintendents

¶ 317. The duties of District Stewards are: To attend the annual District Stewards' Meeting when called by the District Superintendent, to cooperate with the District Superintendent in carrying out uniformly in the District the Disciplinary plans for Ministerial Support, and to perform the duties specified in ¶ 318.

¶ 318. There shall be held annually, in every District, a meeting of the District Stewards (¶ 310), whose duty it shall be, with the advice of the District Superintendent presiding in such District Stewards' Meeting, to make an estimate of the amount neces-

sary to furnish a comfortable support for the District Superintendent; and to apportion the same, including House Rent and Traveling Expenses, and also the claims for the support of Conference Claimants and Bishops as apportioned to the District by the Annual Conference, among the Pastoral Charges in the District, according to their several ability; and in all cases the District Superintendent shall share with the Pastors in his District in proportion to what they have respectively received. The minutes of the District Stewards' Meeting shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, who shall also record the same in a book of which the District Superintendent shall be the custodian.

V. Support of Bishops

¶ 319, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a competent support for each Effective Bishop, considering the number and condition of his family.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee, in fixing the allowance of Retired Bishops and of the widows of Bishops, to inquire carefully into the financial condition of each and to fix the allowance in every case at such a sum as may be required for a comfortable support; provided, that the amount so fixed for a Retired Bishop shall not exceed one half the amount allowed for his support during the year prior to his retirement.

¶ 320. The Bishops are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund for the amounts

allowed to them, inclusive of properly audited accounts for official travel, clerical assistance, and house-rent or maintenance, as authorized by the General Conference.

¶ 321. The Book Committee shall apportion the aggregate sum required to be raised for these purposes among the Annual Conferences, on the basis of the total amount raised in the respective Annual Conferences for Ministerial Support, exclusive of Missionary appropriations, and the Annual Conferences shall apportion the same to the several Districts, and the District Stewards shall apportion the amount apportioned to the District among the several Pastoral Charges. The amount apportioned to each Pastoral Charge for the support of the Bishops shall be a *pro rata* claim with that of the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and the District Superintendent; and the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent shall be entitled to their allowances only to the extent to which the claims of the Bishops are also met by the Charge or District with which such Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent are connected, in accordance with ¶¶ 313, 314, 318. It shall be the duty of the Annual Conferences to see that the amounts apportioned to the different Pastoral Charges for the support of the Bishops be raised and forwarded quarterly, when practicable, to the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund.

¶ 322. The Treasurer shall charge the sums paid to the Bishops and to the widows and children of deceased Bishops, to the Episcopal Fund; and all collections received from the different Charges for the support of the Bishops shall be credited to said Fund. The Treasurer shall report annually to the

Annual Conferences the amount received from the several Annual Conferences on account of said Fund, and also the expenditures made; and shall also make to the General Conference a full and detailed exhibit of such receipts and expenditures for the preceding four years.

VI. Support of Conference Claimants

1. CLAIM

¶ 323, § 1. The claim to a comfortable support inheres in the Gospel Ministry and rightfully inures to the benefit of the Preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, when he is admitted to membership in an Annual Conference. Such claim is not invalidated by his being retired, and at his death passes to the dependent members of his family.

§ 2. Retired Ministers, the widows of deceased Ministers (during their widowhood, and while they remain members of the Methodist Episcopal Church), and their children under sixteen years of age, are Conference Claimants and beneficiaries of the moneys hereinafter provided. For a year at a time and without prejudice to their rights, such claimants may voluntarily relinquish their claim; or on recommendation of the Conference Stewards the claim may be disallowed by action of the Annual Conference, taken after opportunity to be heard has been given.

2. PERMANENT ENDOWMENTS

¶ 324, § 1. Moneys for the permanent endowment of the Conference Claimants of the entire Church

shall be held by the Board of Conference Claimants located at Chicago, Illinois, and shall be administered through its connectional *Permanent Fund*. The Board of Conference Claimants shall also administer all gifts and bequests the custody of which is not otherwise designated, the income of which is intended for the use of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Annual Conferences are authorized to establish and maintain investment Funds, Preachers' Aid Societies, and organizations and funds of similar character, under such names, plans, rules, and regulations as they may determine, the income from which shall be applied to the support of Conference Claimants. It is recommended that each Annual Conference provide an incorporated Board to administer its permanent funds.

3. ANNIVERSARIES

¶ 325, § 1. *Conference Anniversary*. Each Annual Conference shall hold one service during its session, to be known as the Conference Claimants' Anniversary, for the promotion of the interests of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. *Joint Session*. The Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences are recommended to hold a Joint Session quadrennially in the interests of Conference Claimants, and, jointly, to adopt such measures as shall promote the active coöperation of Preachers and people in the liberal support of this cause.

§ 3. *Veterans' Day*. Each Congregation shall observe annually one Sunday as Conference Claimants' Day. The second Sunday in May shall be so observed, unless another day be substituted by the Annual Conference, and shall be known as "Veterans' Day."

4. APPORTIONMENT

¶ 326. There shall be only one apportionment. It shall be the right and duty, solely, of the Annual Conference to make its own apportionment. The Conference Stewards, in determining the total amount which shall be apportioned to the Pastoral Charges in the Conference, shall first estimate the total amount required for the support of all its Conference Claimants. From this amount they shall subtract the income received during the previous year from the Chartered Fund, Book Concern, Connectional Relief, and from all other sources for this purpose, except the receipts from the Pastoral Charges for annual distribution; to this remainder shall be added five per cent for "Conference Percentages," as fixed by the General Conference, to be divided as follows, namely: three per cent for Connectional Relief to be distributed to the Annual Conferences in accordance with ¶ 472; and two per cent for the salary and office expenses of the Corresponding Secretary; provided, that, when the income from such two per cent shall exceed ten thousand dollars per annum, the surplus shall be paid to Connectional Relief. This final sum, when approved by the Annual Conference, shall be equitably apportioned among the several Pastoral Charges in such manner as the Annual Conference may determine.

¶ 327. Moneys contributed to the Board of Conference Claimants, either for Connectional Relief or for the connectional Permanent Fund, shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants (Chicago, Illinois), who shall issue a voucher for the same; or they may be paid to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference, who shall receipt therefor

and forward the amounts so received to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants.

5. ESTIMATING COMMITTEE

¶ 328. The Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which a Conference Claimant is related shall require its Committee on Estimating Ministerial Support to estimate also the amount necessary to provide a comfortable support for such Conference Claimant, giving full information in case of special need. After this estimate has been considered and approved by the Quarterly Conference, it shall be certified by the president and secretary thereof and sent to the secretary of the Conference Stewards for their guidance.

6. CONFERENCE STEWARDS

¶ 329, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall elect Conference Stewards, who may be either Preachers or laymen, arranged in classes so that one third of the Members shall be elected each year.

§ 2. The Conference Stewards shall ascertain what Claimants are in special need (that is, *whose needs require more than can be paid to them from the Annuity Distribution*) and, using as a general basis the estimates received from the Quarterly Conferences and other available information, shall make an equitable allowance to them, which shall be paid *pro rata* from moneys available for that purpose.

§ 3. Upon the recommendation of the Annual Conference, the Conference Stewards may consider and act upon any claim which the Quarterly Conference may have overlooked.

§ 4. Each Annual Conference shall determine whether or not its Conference Stewards shall make a

preliminary report; and, if so, whether or not it shall be read in open Conference, or the action of the Conference Stewards be final.

§ 5. An Annual Conference shall have authority to recognize as Claimants the widow and minor children of a former Member by agreement with the Conference of which he was a Member at the time of his death.

7. METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

¶ 330, § 1. There are three methods for the distribution of moneys raised for the support of Conference Claimants, viz.:

1. The *Annuity* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 331.

2. The *Necessitous* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 333.

3. The *Connectional Relief* Distribution to Annual Conferences, by the Board of Conference Claimants. ¶ 472.

§ 2. Moneys for the above mentioned purposes shall be derived from public collections, private gifts, bequests, and other sources; and that the Church may effectually meet the sacred obligation to provide a comfortable support for Conference Claimants, the rules and regulations for obtaining and administering the funds established for such purpose shall be observed by all Pastors, District Superintendents, and Bishops, and by all Pastoral Charges, Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences.

1. *The Annual Conference Annuity Distribution*

¶ 331. The Annuity Distribution shall be made to Conference Claimants by the Conference Stewards according to the following regulations:

§ 1. The annuity claim of a Retired Minister who has been in the effective relation for thirty-five years as a Member of an Annual Conference shall not be less than one half of the average annual salary paid to the effective members of his Annual Conference, House Rent excluded.

§ 2. The annuity claim of any Retired Minister determined by this standard, shall be not less than one seventieth (1-70) of the average salary of the effective members of his Conference multiplied by the number of years of his effective service, including two years on trial.

§ 3. The annuity claim of a widow shall be determined by the number of years during which she was the wife of a preacher while he was in the effective relation, as a member of an Annual Conference, and shall be one half of the annuity claim of a Retired Minister for such term of years.

§ 4. The term of a father's effective service shall determine the annuity claim of his child, which shall be one fifth of the claim of a Retired Minister, for such term.

§ 5. Whenever a Conference Claimant shall be in debt to the Book Concern, the Conference shall have power to appropriate the amount of the annuity claim, or any part thereof, to the payment of such debt.

¶ 332. Moneys designated for Annuity Distribution shall be *distributed on the basis of service*, and shall consist of:

§ 1. The dividends of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund.

§ 2. The income from any investments made by the Annual Conference for Annuity Distribution and held in trust for this purpose.

§ 3. Such gifts and bequests as are made for Annuity Distribution.

§ 4. Such part of the annual support for Conference Claimants furnished by the Pastoral Charges as the Annual Conference may determine.

2. *The Annual Conference Necessitous Distribution*

¶ 333. Moneys designated for Necessitous Distribution shall be distributed by the Conference Stewards on the basis of special need and shall consist of:

§ 1. The annual Dividend for Connectional Relief paid to the Annual Conference by the Board of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Such part of the support for Conference Claimants furnished by the Pastoral Charges, as the Annual Conference may determine.

§ 3. The income from such gifts and bequests as are made for necessitous distribution.

§ 4. Gifts and bequests made for immediate distribution.

§ 5. Income arising from investments made by Relief and Aid Societies of Annual Conferences, if so determined by them.

3. *Connectional Relief Distribution*

¶ 334. For the Connectional Relief Distribution to Annual Conferences by the Board of Conference Claimants, see ¶ 472.

CHAPTER II

CHURCH PROPERTY

I. Trustees—Appointment and Duties

¶ 335. Each Board of Trustees of our Church property shall consist of not less than three nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age, and two thirds of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ 336. In all cases where the law of the State or Territory fixes the mode of election, the qualifications of voters and of Trustees, or any other matters pertaining to their election, let its requirements be carefully observed.

¶ 337. In all other cases the Trustees shall be elected by ballot by members of the Church not less than twenty-one years of age, at a meeting called for that purpose at a date near to and not later than the fourth Quarterly Conference. Ten or more members of the required age must unite in a written request for such meeting, and shall present it to the Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, to the District Superintendent, who shall thereupon fix the date and place of the election, and notice thereof shall be given publicly from the pulpit for two Sundays prior to the date fixed.

¶ 338. But in Churches which do not come under the provisions of ¶ 337, and when no such written request shall have been made by the members, the Trustees shall be elected annually by the fourth Quar-

terly Conference of the Charge. In case of failure to elect at the proper time a subsequent Quarterly Conference may elect. Trustees shall hold their office until the close of the Quarterly Conference at which their successors shall have been elected.

¶ 339, § 1. All the foregoing provisions shall apply both to the creation of new Boards and to the filling of vacancies, whether for houses of worship or for dwellings for the Preachers.

§ 2. Charters obtained for Church property, in the manner of creating and filling Boards of Trustees, shall conform to the provisions of this chapter.

¶ 340. The Board or Boards of Trustees in any Charge shall hold all Church property, using so much of the proceeds as may be needful to pay debts or to make repairs, and shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference. They shall make to the fourth Quarterly Conference an annual report, embracing the following items: 1. Number of Churches and Parsonages. 2. Their probable value. 3. Title by which held. 4. Income. 5. Expenditures. 6. Debts and how contracted. 7. Insurance. 8. Amount raised during the year for building or improving Churches or Parsonages.

¶ 341. In no case shall the Trustees of Church or Parsonage property mortgage or encumber the real estate for the current expenses of the Church.

II. Conveyance of Church Property

¶ 342. Before any real estate is purchased for either Church, Parsonage, or other purpose, let the Society, in all States and Territories where the statutes will permit, first incorporate. Let the articles

of incorporation provide that the Society shall be subject to the provisions of the Discipline, and to the Usage and Ministerial Appointments of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said Church, and to the Annual Conference within whose bounds such corporation is situated; and that the secular affairs of such corporation shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Trustees elected and organized according to the provisions of said Discipline. Let such articles further provide that such corporation shall have power to acquire, hold, sell, and convey property, both real and personal. When this is done, let all property acquired be deeded directly to the Society in its corporate name.

¶ 343. In States where Church property is required to be held by Trustees, let all deeds under which the Church acquires property, whether designed for Church or Parsonage purposes, be made to the Trustees, naming them, and their successors in office, followed by these words: "In trust for the use and benefit of the Ministry and Membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, subject to the Discipline, Usage, and Ministerial Appointments of said Church, as from time to time authorized and declared; and if sold, the proceeds shall be disposed of and used in accordance with the provisions of said Discipline."

¶ 344. In all other parts of such conveyances, as well as in their attestation, acknowledgment, and the placing of them upon record, let a careful conformity be had to the laws, usages, and forms of the particular State or Territory in which the property

may be situated, so as to secure the ownership of the premises *in fee simple*.

¶ 345. In future we will admit no Charter, Deed, or Conveyance for any house of worship to be used by us, unless it be provided in such Charter, Deed, or Conveyance that the Trustees of said house shall at all times permit such Ministers belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church as shall from time to time be duly authorized by the General Conference of our Church, or by the Annual Conferences, to preach and expound therein God's Holy Word, to execute the Discipline of the Church, and to administer the Sacraments therein, according to the true meaning and purport of our Deed of Settlement.

¶ 346. Wherever it shall be found by any District Superintendent that it is impracticable to incorporate a local Society, or to form a Board of Trustees, at places where work should be undertaken and maintained, property acquired for Church or Parsonage purposes may be deeded to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the property is located, if the laws of the State will permit, in trust for the local Society existing or in contemplation. In similar cases where the State law requires Church property to be held by Boards of Trustees, the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference may hold the property in trust for the local Society until such time as the local Society shall form a Board of Trustees, or until other Disciplinary disposal of the property shall be made.

III. Building Churches

¶ 347. Let all our Churches be plain and decent, and with free seats wherever practicable;

and not more expensive than is absolutely unavoidable to ensure the safe and speedy completion of the same.

¶ 348. In order more effectually to prevent your people from contracting debts which they are not able to discharge, it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of every Charge where it is contemplated to build a house or houses of worship, to secure the ground or lot on which such house or houses are to be built, according to our Deed of Settlement, which Deed must be legally executed; and said Quarterly Conference shall also appoint a judicious Committee of at least three members of our Church, who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build; and three fourths of the money required, according to such estimate, shall be secured or subscribed before any such building shall be commenced.

¶ 349. In all cases where debts for building houses of worship have been, or may be, incurred contrary to, or in disregard of the foregoing recommendation, our members and friends are requested to discountenance such a course by declining to give pecuniary aid to any agents who shall travel beyond their own Circuits or Districts for the collection of funds for the discharge of such debts; except in such peculiar cases as may be approved by an Annual Conference, or in case of such agents as may be appointed by their authority.

IV. Sale of Church Property

¶ 350. If the Trustees of Church property, or any of them, have advanced any sum or sums of money, or are responsible for any sum or sums of money on

account of the said property, and they, the said Trustees, are obliged to pay the said sums of money, they, or a majority of them, shall be authorized to raise the said sum or sums of money by a mortgage on the said premises; or by selling the said premises after notice given to the Pastor or Minister of the Congregation attending divine service on the said premises, if the money due be not paid to the said Trustees, or their successors, within one year after such notice is given. If such sale take place, the said Trustees, or their successors, after paying the debt and other expenses which are due from the money arising from such sale, shall pay the balance, if not needed and applied for the purchase or improvement of other property for the use of the Church, to the Annual Conference within whose bounds such property is located; and in case of the reorganization of the said Society, and the erection of a new Church building within five years after such transfer of funds, then the said Annual Conference shall repay to said new corporation the moneys which it has received from the Church or Society.

¶ 351. Whenever it shall become necessary for the payment of debts, or with a view to reinvestment, to make a sale of Church property that may have been conveyed to Trustees of a Church corporation for either of the foregoing purposes, said Trustees or their successors, upon application to the Quarterly Conference, may obtain an order for the sale—a majority of all the Members of such Quarterly Conference concurring, and the Pastor and the District Superintendent of the District consenting—with such limitations and restrictions as said Quarterly

Conference may judge necessary; and said Trustees, so authorized, may sell and convey such property;

Provided, that in States or countries where the civil or statute law provides any manner of alienation, conveyance, and control of real estate inconsistent with the foregoing, such sale, alienation, or control may be effected pursuant to the provisions of the laws of such State or country; and

Provided, that in all cases the proceeds of the sale, after the payment of debts, if any, if not applied to the purchase or improvement of other property for the same uses, and deeded to the corporation in the same manner, shall be held by such corporation subject to the order of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which such property is located, or of the Trustees of the Conference Fund; and

Provided, that nothing contained in this or the last preceding paragraph shall prevent the establishment and maintenance of an endowment fund for the use and benefit of an existing Church Society or Societies, and said fund shall not be subject to the order of the Annual Conference, or the Trustees of the Conference Fund, except as provided in ¶ 352.

¶ 352. In all cases where Church property is abandoned, or no longer used for the purpose originally designed, it shall be the duty of the Trustees, if any remain, to sell such property and pay over the proceeds to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which it is located; and where no such lawful Trustees remain, it shall be the duty of said Annual Conference to secure the custody of such Church property by such means as the laws of the State may afford, subject to return in the same

manner and upon the same contingencies as named in ¶ 351.

¶ 353. Houses of worship and Parsonages may be removed from one place to another on the same conditions as those on which they may be sold.

V. Building and Renting Parsonages

¶ 354. It is recommended by the General Conference that our Ministers advise our friends in general to purchase a lot of ground in each Charge, to build a Parsonage thereon, and to furnish it with at least heavy furniture.

¶ 355. The General Conference recommends to each Charge, in case it is not able to comply with the above request, to rent a house for its married Pastor and his family, and that the Annual Conference assist in providing the rental for such houses as far as it can, when the Pastoral Charges cannot do it.

¶ 356. Wherever there are two or more Societies on a Pastoral Charge a separate Board of Trustees, consisting of not less than three nor more than nine persons, shall be elected by the Societies on said Charge, to be the custodians of the Parsonage property on such Charge. Such Trustees shall have the qualifications required by ¶ 335 of the Discipline for Trustees of Church property, and shall become bodies corporate wherever practicable under the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds such Parsonage property is located.

¶ 357. The Stewards in each Charge shall be a standing Committee, where no Trustees are constituted for that purpose, to provide houses for the families of our married Ministers, or to assist the

Ministers to obtain houses for themselves, when they are appointed to labor among them.

¶ 358. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents and Ministers to use their influence to carry into effect the above rules, respecting building and renting houses for the accommodation of Ministers and their families. In order to accomplish this, unless other measures be adopted, each Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee, which, with the advice and aid of the Ministers and District Superintendents, shall devise such means as may seem wise to raise moneys for that purpose. And it is recommended to the Annual Conferences to make a special inquiry of their Members respecting this part of their duty.

VI. Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church

¶ 359. There shall be an incorporated Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Cincinnati, composed of twelve members, divided into classes of three Ministers and three Laymen each. The term of office shall be eight years. Each General Conference shall elect one class, and fill vacancies caused by death, resignation, cessation of membership in the Church, or otherwise. Vacancies occurring in the interval of the General Conference shall be filled for the remainder of the quadrennium by the Bishops.

¶ 360. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, pursuant to the action of the General Conference, should not be confounded with local Boards of Trustees of Church

property referred to in ¶¶ 335-342 of the Discipline, which local Boards have the care only of Church property within the several Pastoral Charges to which they are related, and are amenable to their respective Quarterly Conferences. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church are constituted by the General Conference and made amenable thereto, in order that the Church may have competent representation in legal proceedings and have an authorized body to care for and administer all the property conveyed to it, or committed to it in trust, within the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America.

¶ 361. This corporation shall hold in trust, for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, any and all donations, bequests, gifts, grants, and funds in trust, etc., that may be given or conveyed directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church or to the Corporation for the benefit of said Church or for the benefit of Conference Claimants, or for the benefit of any of the benevolent Societies or other Institutions under the patronage or direction of the Church, or for any other benevolent purpose that the Corporation may judge to be in harmony with the purposes for which it was instituted, and to administer the said funds, and the proceeds of the same, in accordance with the directions of the donors, and the interests of the Church contemplated by said donors; provided, that any sums thus donated or bequeathed, but not especially designated for any benevolent object, shall be added to the "Permanent Fund"; and provided, also, that the Corporation shall not be required to accept any gift, bequest, or trust to which may be attached conditions deemed by the

Corporation to be unreasonable or inconsistent with the terms of the trust, or likely to produce embarrassment in administration; and having accepted any gift or bequest in trust, it shall be responsible only for the careful and economical administration of the same, and shall not be held to account to any beneficiary for either the principal or income therefrom beyond what may be secured by fidelity and diligence. Each trust shall be charged with the expense necessary to its care and administration.

¶ 362. It shall be the duty of the Pastor within the bounds of whose Charge any donation, bequest, gift, grant, or trust is made directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church, or to this Corporation—the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church—to give prompt notice thereof to the said Trustees, in order that they may protect and administer the same without delay.

¶ 363. This Corporation shall make to each General Conference a full report in which shall be shown the Funds and Properties held in trust and the receipts and disbursements during the quadrennium.

¶ 364. There shall be a Fund known as "The Permanent Fund," to be held by the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the principal of which shall be intact forever, and which shall be invested by said Trustees on first-class securities, and at as favorable rates as can be legally secured.

¶ 365. It shall be the duty of all Ministers to obtain, as far as practicable, contributions to said Fund, by donations, bequests, and otherwise.

¶ 366. The interest accumulating from said Fund shall be subject to the order of the General Conference for the following purposes: 1. To pay the ex-

penses of the General Conference. 2. To pay the expenses of Delegations appointed by the General Conference to Corresponding Bodies. 3. To make up any deficiencies in the salaries of the Bishops. 4. To relieve the necessities of the Retired Ministers, and of the widows and children of those who have died in the work.

VII. Auditing and Bonding

¶ 367. All persons holding trust funds, either of an Annual or the General Conference, shall be bonded in a reliable company in a good and sufficient sum, as the Conference may direct, and the Conference shall pay the expense of said bonding. These accounts shall be audited at least once a year.

CHAPTER III

LADIES' AID SOCIETIES

¶ 368, § 1. For the promotion of the social and financial interests of the Churches, Ladies' Aid Societies, or Societies of similar designation and purpose, may be organized in the local Charge, which Societies shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The President of a Ladies' Aid Society shall be elected by the Society and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference. If a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she shall then become a Member of the Quarterly Conference if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be her duty to present

to the fourth Quarterly Conference a report of her Society, together with such other information as the Quarterly Conference may require and she may be able to give.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies, and to ascertain if they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.

PART VII
INSTITUTIONS, BOARDS, AND
SOCIETIES

- I. THE BOOK CONCERN
- II. BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
- III. WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
- IV. BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH
EXTENSION
- V. WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY
- VI. CITY SOCIETIES
- VII. FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY
- VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION
- IX. BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS
- X. BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS
- XI. EPWORTH LEAGUE
- XII. METHODIST BROTHERHOOD
- XIII. CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY
- XIV. CHARTERED FUND

CHAPTER I

THE BOOK CONCERN

I. The Methodist Book Concern

¶ **369, § 1.** The Methodist Book Concern comprises the publishing interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church—as set forth in the Discipline and in its articles of incorporation, under the corporate name, The Methodist Book Concern—and consists of the publishing houses located in New York City and in Cincinnati, Ohio, respectively; the Depositories connected therewith; the books, periodicals, and publications of the Church; and such other property, equipment, and appliances for their production, sale, and distribution, as the General Conference or the Book Committee from time to time may authorize and direct.

§ 2. The objects and purposes for which The Methodist Book Concern was established and is carried on are: the promotion of Christian education; the dissemination of moral and religious literature; the spread of Christianity by the publication, sale, and distribution of moral and religious literature; the transaction of such other business as is properly connected with book-publishing, book-making, and book-selling; the produce of the same to be applied for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children, in accordance with the Constitution and Discipline of the Church.

II. Book Committee

¶ 370, § 1. Beginning with A. D. 1900, the General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Book Committee, consisting of one member from each of the General Conference Districts into which the Annual Conferences are distributed, and ten members constituting the Local Committees as defined in § 2 hereof. Those elected from the Districts designated by odd numbers shall be elected for a term of eight years, and those from the districts designated by even numbers for a term of four years; and hereafter each General Conference shall elect for a term of eight years one member for each District, who shall be nominated by the delegations representing that District, to take the place of the member whose term is then expiring, or to fill any vacancy in the Committee for the unexpired term; provided, that in any such case the person elected to fill such vacancy in a General Conference District membership shall be from the Annual Conference to which the retiring member belonged, or within the bounds of which he resided. Any vacancy occurring in the District membership of the Book Committee, by a member's removal from the District from which he was elected, or by any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

§ 2. In 1912 the General Conference shall elect five members of the Book Committee from New York City and the territory contiguous thereto, two of whom shall serve for four years and three for eight years; and shall elect five members from Cincinnati, Ohio, and the territory contiguous thereto, three of whom shall serve for four years, and two for eight

years. Thereafter each General Conference shall elect for eight years members from the respective territories to take the place of those whose terms are then expiring, and shall fill for the unexpired term any vacancy by the election of a member from the territory in which such vacancy occurs. The Standing Committee on Book Concern shall nominate the members of the Local Committees. The members provided for by this section shall be known as the Local Committee at New York and at Cincinnati respectively, and at least two members of each Local Committee shall be ministers. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Local Committee shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

¶ 371, § 1. The Book Committee shall have general supervision and direction of the publishing interests. The Committee shall meet immediately after the adjournment of the General Conference and organize by the election of a chairman, a secretary, and such other officers as may be required by the laws of the States under which its articles of incorporation are obtained. It may also appoint such other officers and committees and adopt such rules and regulations for the transaction of its affairs as it may deem necessary. The officers shall perform such duties as are usually performed by similar officers.

§ 2. The annual meeting of the Book Committee shall be held on the third Wednesday in April, or at such other time as the Book Committee may determine, and special meetings may be held at such times and places as the Committee may appoint, or at the call of the chairman, or upon the written re-

quest of ten members of the Committee. At all meetings of the Book Committee a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 372, § 1. The Book Committee shall keep a correct record of its proceedings and shall examine carefully into the condition of the affairs of the Book Concern and make report thereof to the Annual Conferences and to the General Conference.

§ 2. The Book Committee shall have full power to discontinue any depository or periodical when, in its judgment, the interests of the Church or Book Concern demand it; but said action shall not be taken except by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Committee, and after due notice of such contemplated action shall have been given to the Publishing Agents and Editors concerned. The Book Committee shall have power to order expenses curtailed in any of the departments of the Book Concern, and when such action as above specified shall have been taken, the Publishing Agents shall proceed at once to carry out the instructions of the Committee. The Book Committee shall also attend to all matters referred to it for action or counsel by the Publishing Agents or Editors.

§ 3. The Book Committee shall annually fix the salaries of the Bishops, Publishing Agents, and all official Editors elected by the General Conference or the Book Committee, not otherwise provided for, and shall determine the amount and the distribution of the Correspondence Fund allowed to the official periodicals.

¶ 373. The Book Committee shall elect quadrennially a Book Editor, whose duties are hereinafter defined. ¶ 385.

¶ 374, § 1. At the beginning of each quadrennium the Book Committee shall estimate the amount of money necessary to meet the expenses of the next General Conference, and of the Judicial Conferences, General Conference Commissions, and such other expenses as the General Conference may have authorized to be paid from this fund. The District Superintendents, within sixty days after the adjournment of their respective Annual Conferences in the first year of the quadrennium, shall make an equitable apportionment of the amount asked from their Districts for the quadrennium, and send a copy of this apportionment to the charges of the District and to the Treasurer of the General Conference Commission. Should any District Superintendent fail to make such an apportionment within the time named above, the Treasurer of the General Conference Commission is authorized to make the apportionment on the basis ordered by the Book Committee. One third of the full amount of the apportionment shall be raised in each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference and shall be promptly remitted to the Treasurer of the General Conference Commission.

§ 2. Any part of the apportionment unpaid at the close of the Annual Conference session preceding the General Conference shall be reapportioned and raised within the coming Conference year. Should there remain any deficiency at the close of the first Annual Conference session succeeding the General Conference, it shall be added to the regular apportionment for the next year, and shall be collected with it.

§ 3. All sums collected by the Pastor for General

Conference expenses shall be paid promptly to the Treasurer of the General Conference Commission, who shall give a voucher for the same.

III. Local Committees

¶ 375. The five members of the Book Committee chosen from the territory contiguous to New York and Cincinnati, respectively, shall assemble as soon after their election as practicable and organize separately by the election of a Chairman and a Secretary for each of said Local Committees; and thereafter shall meet monthly to examine into the affairs under their charge; and, as directed by the Book Committee, shall have the general supervision and direction of the affairs of the Publishing Houses and Depositories under their immediate charge; and during the intervals of the Book Committee meetings, the Local Committees shall also perform such duties as commonly belong to the Executive Committee of a Board of Trustees. A majority of the members of each Local Committee shall constitute a quorum. The duties of the Chairman of the Book Committee, in case of his absence or disability, may be performed by the Chairman of either of the Local Committees.

¶ 376, § 1. The Local Committees respectively shall meet monthly and shall keep correct records of their proceedings, and when requested they shall submit the records either to the Book Committee or to the Local Committees in Joint Session. At the beginning of the quadrennium each Local Committee shall value all the real estate under its supervision;

which valuation shall be entered in the records and shall not be changed during the quadrennium, except as property may be purchased, improved, sold, or destroyed.

§ 2. The Methodist Book Concern shall not buy, sell, or exchange any real estate, except by order of the General Conference, or between sessions of the General Conference, by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Book Committee. But this provision shall not prevent the making of investments on mortgage security or the protection of the same or the collection of claims and judgments.

¶ 377, § 1. The Local Committees shall meet in Joint Session semiannually at such time and place as they may determine, or at the call of the Chairman of the Book Committee, or at the written request of three members of each of the Local Committees; and when in Joint Session they shall act as a Joint Executive Committee. The chairman of the Book Committee shall be *ex-officio* Chairman, and shall preside at the Joint Sessions of the Local Committees; and a majority of the members of each of the Local Committees shall be required for a quorum.

§ 2. The Local Committees, acting jointly, shall have power to suspend a Publishing Agent or an Editor, for cause to them sufficient; and in such case, a time shall be fixed at as early a day as practicable for the investigation of the official conduct of said Publishing Agent or Editor. Due notice of the time and of the nature of the charges shall be given by the Chairman of the Book Committee to such Publishing Agent or Editor, and also to the Bishops through their secretary. The Bishops there-

upon shall elect one of their number to be present and preside at the investigation.

§ 3. The investigation shall be before the members of the Book Committee elected from the General Conference Districts, who by a two-thirds vote may remove from office said Publishing Agent or Editor, between the sessions of the General Conference.

§ 4. In case a vacancy occur in either the publishing, editorial, or other official departments of the Book Concern authorized by the General Conference, it shall be the duty of the Book Committee, two at least of the General Superintendents being present, and a majority of those present concurring, to provide, as soon as possible, for such vacancy until the session of the next General Conference.

IV. Publishing Agents

¶ 378, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially four Publishing Agents, who, under the supervision and direction of the Book Committee, shall have authority, as the administrative officers of the Book Concern, to regulate the production and distribution of the publications and to conduct the affairs of The Methodist Book Concern.

§ 2. At its meeting for organization, the Book Committee shall designate one of these Publishing Agents as the General Agent. It shall be the duty of said General Agent to classify and distribute to the several Publishing Houses and administrative officers herein described, the work of producing and circulating the various publications of the Church. He shall be responsible for the administration and man-

agement of the affairs of the Book Concern and shall perform such other duties as the General Conference or the Book Committee from time to time may direct.

§ 3. At the meeting for organization the Book Committee shall designate one of the Publishing Agents, who shall have immediate charge and administration of the publishing interests at New York City; one with like duties at Cincinnati; and one with like duties at Chicago. The Publishing Agents thus designated, subject to the approval of the Local Committee in charge, shall appoint such superintendents and heads of departments as may be deemed necessary to promote the efficiency and success of the Book Concern.

¶ 379, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Publishing Agents to publish, purchase, sell, and distribute such books, tracts, periodicals, and publications as are authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee.

§ 2. Tracts supplied to the different societies of the Church by order of the Book Committee shall be charged at the actual cost of publication.

¶ 380, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep the accounts of the Book Concern by such uniform system as shall be authorized by the Book Committee.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall annually take a complete inventory, including therein all assets of whatever nature belonging to the respective departments under their charge, and by a uniform system accurately determine their cash value; and shall include the real estate at the valuation made by the Local Committees at the beginning of each quadrennium, noting any changes made therein and the reasons therefor. The annual account shall be submitted to the Book Com-

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mittee at its first session, and shall contain a full and detailed statement of all assets and liabilities, income and disbursements in the respective departments of the Book Concern.

§ 3. The Publishing Agents shall deliver to their successors in office such statements of assets and liabilities as shall be ordered, approved and certified by the Book Committee.

¶ 381, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep a separate account with the several departments of the Book Concern under their charge, including real estate, and in their reports of the same to the Book Committee, to the Annual Conferences, and to the General Conference shall set forth the amount of sales, receipts, and expenditures for books and periodicals, including sales by the Depositories under their management.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall furnish to the Local Committees a full and satisfactory statement of the transactions of each month, and when the Local Committees require shall present for examination proper vouchers for all payments made by them during the period specified, and shall afford said Local Committees every possible means and facility for a full and intelligent understanding of the affairs of the several departments under their care.

¶ 382, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall send to the Annual Conferences a statement of the accounts due the Book Concern from the several Members thereof and early in the session the Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, composed of one Pastor for each Superintendent's District, which Committee shall assist in the collection of the accounts forwarded, and pay all

collections to the Publishing Agent or his representative, if present; and if not present, the Committee shall make prompt and accurate return for the same to the Publishing House from which they were received, and shall receive a voucher for the same. This Committee shall make a careful canvass of the preachers in each of the Districts and ascertain what periodicals are supplied by the Book Concern, and what publications issued by other societies in the Church are taken, reporting the names and number of these publications in open Conference; and shall also send a copy of said report to the Publishing Agent by whom the accounts are issued. ¶ 84.

§ 2. Every District Superintendent and Pastor, when requested by the Publishing Agents, shall do all in his power to collect debts due the Book Concern; and should any Minister or member of our Church who is indebted to the Book Concern refuse or neglect to make payment or to effect a just settlement of his account, he shall be reported and dealt with in the same manner as in other cases of debt or disputed accounts.

¶ 383. The produce of the Book Concern, after the Book Committee has determined and retained a sufficient amount with which to carry on its affairs, shall be regularly applied to the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children. The division of the produce of the Book Concern available for distribution according to this paragraph shall be made equitably to the Annual Conferences upon the basis of membership. In making this distribution the Publishing Agents shall forward to each Annual Conference, during its session, a statement showing the

amount due the Conference, together with a draft for the same.

V. Depositories

¶ 384, § 1. There shall be Depositories for the sale and distribution of the books and publications of The Methodist Book Concern, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Boston, Massachusetts; and Detroit, Michigan, which shall be in charge of The Methodist Book Concern in New York; and Depositories at Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; and San Francisco, California, which shall be in charge of The Methodist Book Concern in Cincinnati; also Depositories at such other places as the General Conference may determine from time to time. Each Depository shall be supplied with a full stock of the books of the General Catalogue, Sunday School Books, Sunday School Supplies, and Tracts, to be sold for the Publishing House with which the Depository is connected.

§ 2. After the expenses incident to the transportation, management, and sale of books and publications at the Depositories have been paid out of the sales, the net proceeds for the same shall be forwarded to the Publishing House by which they were supplied; to which full statements of the amounts of sales and expenses shall be made at dates fixed, cash sales being distinguished from those on credit. Statements of the amount of stock shall also be made and sent to the Publishing House, when required.

VI. Editors

¶ 385. The Book Editor shall have editorial supervision of all manuscripts and printed matter in-

tended for publication in book form, or intended to bear the imprint of The Methodist Book Concern, as hereinbefore provided. The Book Editor shall also be the editor of the tracts published by the Book Concern.

¶ 386. There shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference an Editor for each of the following periodicals: The *Methodist Review*, The *Christian Advocate*, the *Southwestern Christian Advocate*, *Der Christliche Apologete*, *Haus und Herd*, the *Epworth Herald*, and also an Editor of Sunday School Literature. Nominations for the foregoing Editors shall be sent to the Secretary's desk in writing.

¶ 387, § 1. The General Conference, on nomination by the several Districts as herein provided, shall elect the Editors of the following periodicals: The *Western Christian Advocate*, the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, the *Central Christian Advocate*, the *Pacific Christian Advocate*, the *California Christian Advocate*, and the *Methodist Advocate Journal*.

§ 2. For the purpose of making nominations of Editors for these Advocates, the Annual Conferences naturally tributary to the several publications shall be divided into nominating districts as follows:

Western Christian Advocate.—Cincinnati, Central Ohio, Ohio, Indiana, North Indiana, Northwest Indiana, and Kentucky Conferences.

§ 3. *Northwestern Christian Advocate*.—Rock River, Illinois, Central Illinois, Michigan, Detroit, Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Minnesota, Dakota, North Dakota, Upper Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa, and Northwest Iowa Conferences.

§ 4. *Central Christian Advocate*.—Southern Illi-

nois, Saint Louis, Missouri, Kansas, South Kansas, Northwest Kansas, Southwest Kansas, Nebraska, North Nebraska, Northwest Nebraska, West Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Colorado Conferences.

§ 5. *Pacific Christian Advocate*.—Columbia River, Oregon, Puget Sound, Idaho, Montana, and North Montana Conferences.

§ 6. *California Christian Advocate*.—California and Southern California Conferences.

§ 7. *Methodist Advocate-Journal*.—Holston, Alabama, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, Central Tennessee, Georgia, Saint Johns River, and Gulf Conferences.

§ 8. The General Conference delegates from each of the nominating districts above described shall place in nomination before the General Conference one or more persons for Editor of the Advocate related to such district—the number thus nominated to be governed by the desire of those representing such districts and present at a regular meeting thereof to be called by the Secretary of the General Conference. The General Conference shall then elect by ballot the Editor of each Advocate. While the privilege of nomination shall reside in these several districts, the rights of any member of the General Conference to vote for whomsoever he pleases as Editor of any one of these publications shall not be abridged.

§ 9. In the above distribution of the Annual Conferences, the former North Ohio portion of the North East Ohio Conference shall be considered as common patronizing territory for the *Pittsburgh* and the *Western Christian Advocates*; and the Northwest Indiana Conference, as common patronizing territory for the *Western* and the *Northwestern Christian Advocates*.

¶ 388. The Editor of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate* shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference, on nomination of the Publishing Committee of said Advocate.

¶ 389. The Book Committee may elect such Editors of publications conducted by The Methodist Book Concern as have not been elected by the General Conference.

¶ 390. The Editor of *Haus und Herd* shall also be Editor of German Sunday School books, periodicals, and tracts.

¶ 391. The Editors shall perform such duties as properly belong to the editorial office, and in such manner as the interests of the Church may require, the General Conference may authorize, or the Book Committees in its business relations to the Editors may direct; and they shall give their undivided attention to these duties.

¶ 392. There shall be a Publishing Committee, for the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*, elected by the General Conference, consisting of three members from the Pittsburgh Conference, three from the Erie Conference, three from the North-East Ohio Conference, and three from the West Virginia Conference. Such Publishing Committee shall fix the salary of the Editor, keep an account of the receipts and expenditures of the paper, and report annually its financial condition to the patronizing Conferences. A copy of said report shall be sent also to the Publishing Agent at New York, and any balance remaining after defraying current expenses shall be subject to the order of said Publishing Agent.

¶ 393. The Annual and District Conferences are earnestly requested not to establish or encourage the

establishing of Conference or local Church papers, except such as are approved and authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee; and where such papers exist the Conferences are requested to discontinue the same, when it can be done consistently with existing obligations. They are also requested to discourage the display or sale of other than our own publications at the sessions of the Annual Conferences.

VII. Circulation of Religious Tracts

¶ 394. It is recommended to our people everywhere to form Tract Societies for the distribution of tracts and religious literature.

¶ 395. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of tract distribution before the fourth Quarterly Conference in each Charge within his District; and said Conference shall appoint a Committee, of which the Pastor shall be Chairman, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract distribution.

¶ 396. No books shall hereafter be sold on commission, either from New York, Cincinnati, or any Depository or establishment under direction of the Book Concern; provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the Publishing Agents from opening up limited "On Sale" accounts with our Ministers, the same to be governed by the general rules of credit of the Book Concern.

CHAPTER II

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

I. Incorporation

¶ 397. There shall be a Board of Foreign Missions, duly incorporated according to law, and having its office in New York City; said Board of Foreign Missions being subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

NOTE.—For Charter, By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report of Board of Foreign Missions.

II Constitution

¶ 398. ARTICLE I. *Name and Object.* The name of this organization shall be the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Its objects are religious and philanthropic, designed to diffuse more generally the blessings of Christianity, by the promotion and support of Christian Missions and educational institutions in foreign countries, and also in such other places subject to the sovereignty of the United States, but not on the continent of North America or the islands adjacent thereto, as may be committed to the care of said organization by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under such rules and regulations as said General Conference may from time to time prescribe.

¶ 399. ARTICLE II. *Life Members, Honorary Mem-*

bers, and Patrons. All members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributing to the funds of the Board of Foreign Missions, shall be nominally members of said Board. Any person contributing \$20 at one time shall be a Life Member. Any person giving \$200 at one time shall be an Honorary Life Member. Any person giving \$500 at one time shall be an Honorary Manager for life, and any person giving \$1,000 at one time shall be a Patron for life; and such Manager or Patron shall be entitled to a seat and the right of speaking, but not of voting, in the meetings of the Board of Managers. Honorary Managers not to exceed twenty in number may be elected by the General Conference, and, in case of vacancies, may be elected by the Board of Managers during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, said Honorary Managers being entitled to speak in the meetings of the Board of Managers, but not to vote.

¶ 400, § 1. ARTICLE III. *General Committee of Foreign Missions.* There shall be a General Committee of Foreign Missions, composed of the General Superintendents, the Missionary Bishops, the Corresponding Secretaries, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, two representatives, one lay and one ministerial, from each General Conference District, and as many representatives from the Board of Managers as there are General Conference Districts.

§ 2. The representatives of the Board of Managers shall be elected by the Board from its own members, and shall include as nearly as may be an equal number of Ministers and Laymen.

§ 3. The representatives of the General Conference

Districts shall be elected by the General Conference, on nomination of the delegates within the respective Districts, for a term of four years.

§ 4. If a vacancy should occur in the General Committee by the death, resignation, or removal of a District representative from the District of his Conference or Church membership, or otherwise, the Board of Bishops shall fill such vacancy by the appointment of a successor from the Annual Conference to which such representative belonged; or, if a Layman, from within the bounds of the Annual Conference within which he resided; such appointee to hold office until the end of the quadrennium.

¶ 401, § 1. The General Committee of Foreign Missions shall meet annually at such place in the United States as the General Committee, from year to year, may determine, and at such time in the month of November as shall be determined by the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers, due notice of which shall be given to each member. But the annual meeting of the said Committee shall not be held in the same General Conference District more frequently than once in four years. The Bishops shall preside over said Annual Meeting.

§ 2. The General Committee of Foreign Missions shall determine what fields shall be occupied as Foreign Missions and the amount necessary for the support of each, and shall make appropriations for the same, including an Emergency Fund of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000); provided, that the General Committee of Foreign Missions shall not appropriate for a given year, including the emergency appropriation of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), more than the total income for the year immediately preceding.

In the intervals between the meetings of the General Committee of Foreign Missions, the Board of Managers may provide, from the Emergency Fund, for any unforeseen emergency that may arise in any of our Foreign Missions.

§ 3. The General Committee of Foreign Missions shall be amenable to the General Conference, to which it shall make a full report of its doings. Any expense incurred in the discharge of its duties shall be paid from the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions.

¶ 402, § 1. ARTICLE IV. *Board of Managers.* The management and disposition of the affairs and property of the Board of Foreign Missions and the administration of the appropriations and all other funds shall be vested in a Board of Managers, consisting of the General Superintendents and the Missionary Bishops, who shall be *ex officio* members of said Board, thirty-two Laymen, and thirty-two Traveling Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, elected by the General Conference, according to the requirements of the existing Charter of said Board of Foreign Missions. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled as the Charter provides; and the absence, without reasonable excuse, of any member from six consecutive meetings of the Board shall create a vacancy. The Board shall also have authority to make By-laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution or the Charter; to print books, periodicals, and tracts for Foreign Missions; to elect a President, Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, and such Assistant Secretaries as may be necessary; to fill vacancies that may occur among the officers elected by the Board. It shall present a statement

of its transactions and funds to the Church in its annual report, and shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the preceding four years, and the state of its funds.

§ 2. The Board of Foreign Missions shall have power to suspend a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or any elected member of the Board of Managers, for cause to it sufficient; and a time and place shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, at as early a day as practicable, for the investigation of the official conduct of the person against whom complaint shall have been made. Due notice shall be given by the Board to the Bishops, who shall select one of their number to preside at the investigation, which shall be before a Committee of twelve persons, six Ministers and six Laymen, none of whom shall be members of the Board of Managers. Said Committee shall be appointed by the Bishop selected to preside at the investigation. Two thirds of said Committee shall have power of removal from office, in the interval of General Conference, of the official against whom complaint has been made.

§ 3. In case a vacancy shall occur in the office of Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, or Assistant Treasurer, the Bishops shall have power to fill the vacancy; and, until they do so, the Board of Managers shall provide for the duties of the office.

§ 4. Thirteen members present at any meeting of the Board of Managers shall be a quorum.

§ 5. The Board shall have authority to solicit and receive funds for the publication and distribution of tracts.

¶ 403, § 1. ARTICLE V. *Corresponding Secretaries.* There shall be three Corresponding Secretaries, hav-

ing coördinate power, who shall be the executive officers of the Board of Foreign Missions, all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference quadrennially.

§ 2. They shall be subject to the direction of the Board of Managers, and their salaries, which shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, shall be paid out of the treasury. They shall be employed exclusively in conducting the correspondence of the Board, in furnishing the Church with missionary intelligence, in supervising the foreign missionary work of the Church, and by correspondence, traveling, and otherwise shall promote the general interests of the cause.

¶ 404. ARTICLE VI. *Election of Officers.* The officers to be elected by the Board shall be chosen and hold their office for the term of one year, or until their successors shall be elected; or, if a vacancy should occur during the year by death, resignation, or otherwise, it may be filled at any regular meeting of the Board. The first election of each quadrennium shall be held at the regular meeting of the Board next succeeding the General Conference.

¶ 405. ARTICLE VII. *Presiding Officer.* At all meetings of the Board, the President shall preside. But if he should be absent, one of the Vice-Presidents shall take his place. In the absence of the President and of all the Vice-Presidents, a member appointed by the meeting for the purpose shall preside. The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the same are read and approved, and by the Recording Secretary.

¶ 406, § 1. ARTICLE VIII. *Special Gifts.* Credit shall be given for special gifts from any Charge when said Charge, including the Sunday School,

shall have raised its full apportionment for the Board of Foreign Missions, and such special donation shall be received by the Board for the specified purpose. Special donations shall be applied in full to the purposes designated by the donors, but shall be included in estimating the cost of collection and administration. Nevertheless, whenever a Charge or an individual or group of individuals in any Charge shall support entirely one of our Missionaries in the foreign field, who is a regularly appointed Missionary of the Board, and assigned to the Charge, the entire amount may be credited, irrespective of apportionments.

§ 2. The General Committee shall make supplemental appropriations for the work to the several Missions, of the average amount of special gifts received and applied in the previous three years, such supplemental appropriations not to be paid, except as special gifts are received for the Missions. Obligations beyond the amount of the money thus appropriated shall not be assumed in the Missions, except as the necessary funds are received. All special gifts received for the fields shall be paid through the office of the Board of Foreign Missions, though the total thereof shall exceed the appropriation.

§ 3. The Board shall exercise general supervision over appeals for special gifts.

¶ 407. ARTICLE IX. *Support of Retired and other Missionaries.* The Board may provide for the support of Retired Missionaries, and of the widows and orphans of Missionaries, who may not be provided for by their Annual Conferences respectively; provided, they shall not receive more than is usually allowed Retired Ministers, their widows and orphans in home Conferences.

¶ 408. No one shall be acknowledged as a Missionary or receive support as such from the funds of the Board of Foreign Missions who has not been approved by the Board of Managers, and been assigned to some definite field, except as above provided. Ministerial Missionaries shall be constituted by the joint action of a General Superintendent and the Board. Lay Missionaries shall be appointed by the Board of Managers.

¶ 409. ARTICLE X. *Amendments.* This Constitution shall be subject to amendment or alteration only by the General Conference.

III. Administration of Foreign Missions

¶ 410, § 1. When a Mission is established in a foreign country, outside of an Annual Conference, the Bishop having Episcopal supervision of the same may appoint a member of the Mission as Superintendent, who may also be a District Superintendent. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, in the absence of a Bishop, to preside in the Annual Meeting of the Mission and to arrange the work and take general supervision of the entire Mission. Also, from time to time, he shall represent the state of the Mission and its needs to the Bishop in charge and to the Corresponding Secretaries.

§ 2. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission shall designate annually a time at which all the members of the Mission and also the native preachers employed as supplies or helpers in the Mission shall come together for the purpose of holding an Annual Meeting, said meeting having, in

all ecclesiastical matters, the duties and powers of a District Conference; and transacting such other business as may be assigned to it by the Board or grow out of the local interests of the work. In the absence of a Bishop or the Superintendent, the Annual Meeting shall choose its presiding officer in the manner provided for District Conferences.

§ 3. When a Mission in a foreign country is organized into a Mission Conference or an Annual Conference the administration of the Board of Foreign Missions shall not be disturbed thereby, but shall be continued as in other Foreign Missions.

IV. Annual Conference Board

¶ 411, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions. This Annual Conference Board shall consist of the District Superintendents, District Missionary Secretaries, and District Epworth League Presidents, *ex officio*, and one Sunday School Superintendent, and one lay member from each District, to be elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the District Superintendents. The Annual Conference shall elect the officers of the said Board from among its members, on the nomination of the District Superintendents.

§ 2. The said Board shall present an annual report to the Annual Conference through its President; and shall have charge of the Annual Conference anniversary of the Board of Foreign Missions, to which an entire evening shall be given.

§ 3. There shall be at least one meeting of the

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Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions, each year for the consideration and furtherance of the interests of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference, at which meeting a Secretary or other representative of the Board of Foreign Missions shall be present if possible, and the said Board shall provide for the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference, and may arrange for conventions.

V. District Board

¶ 412, § 1. There shall be in each District Superintendent's District a District Board of Foreign Missions composed of the members of the Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions from the District. The District Superintendent shall be the President of said District Board and the District Missionary Secretary shall be its Secretary. Meetings of the said District Board shall be held at the call of the President; provided, that at least one meeting shall be held each year.

§ 2. The said District Board shall aid the Pastors in the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the District, and may arrange for conventions.

VI. District Missionary Secretaries

¶ 413. The presiding Bishop, on nomination of the District Superintendent, shall appoint a Member of the Annual Conference as Missionary Secretary for each District Superintendent's District, who shall serve without salary, and whose duty it shall be

to assist the District Superintendent in carrying out the plans in the interests of Foreign Missions on the District; and who, by correspondence and otherwise, shall aid in securing the distribution of missionary literature in every Pastoral Charge, coöperate with the missionary office in New York City in the distinctive work of the Missionary Education Department, and keep said office informed as to foreign missionary conditions on the District.

VII. District Superintendents

¶ 414, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that the provisions of the Discipline concerning Foreign Missions are faithfully executed in his District, and in order thereto he shall inquire at each session of the several Quarterly Conferences, what has been done toward raising funds for the support of Foreign Missions during the preceding quarter, and particularly what has been done in the Sunday Schools for this cause.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that there be appointed at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge, a Committee on Foreign Missions, consisting of five or more persons, including one Sunday School Superintendent and one Epworth League President, of which Committee the Pastor shall be Chairman. Its duty shall be to aid the Pastor in disseminating missionary information, planning for the Annual Foreign Missionary Day, and securing a thorough canvass of the members of the Churches and Congregations in the interest of Foreign Missions.

VIII. Pastors and Churches

¶ 415, § 1. The support of Foreign Missions is committed to Pastors, Congregations, Sunday Schools, and Epworth Leagues.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to provide for the diffusion of missionary information among the members of his Church, Congregation, Sunday School, and Epworth League.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to institute a monthly missionary prayer meeting or missionary address in his Pastoral Charge, for the purpose of imploring the divine blessing upon Missions throughout the world, and for the diffusion of missionary intelligence among the people.

§ 4. The Pastor, aided by the Official Board and the Committee on Foreign Missions, shall provide for a thorough foreign missionary canvass, and an Annual Missionary Day, when the Pastor, or some one invited by him, shall present the cause of Foreign Missions, and contributions shall be taken for the foreign work exclusively. If so desired, the contributions may be paid weekly or monthly, and the Board of Foreign Missions shall supply envelopes for the same.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to see that each Sunday School on his Pastoral Charge is organized into a Missionary Society, and that at least one Sunday in each month is observed in the interest of Missions and a collection taken, which shall be divided as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board

of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent to the Board of Sunday Schools; and all contributions of the Sunday Schools shall be reported in a separate column in the Annual and General Minutes. It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Missionary Society, with the consent of the Sunday School Board, to provide brief missionary exercises on the day that is set apart for the monthly missionary collection to be taken, to cause suitable literature to be distributed in the Sunday Schools, and to arrange for occasional missionary concerts. The Sunday School Missionary Society shall include Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to organize Mission Study Classes in his Charge where practicable.

CHAPTER III

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 416, § 1. For the more successful prosecution of the missionary work of the Church among women in foreign lands, there shall be an organization known as the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be governed and regulated by its Constitution, which may be altered or amended by the General Conference as the necessities of the work may require.

§ 2. This Society shall work in harmony with, and under the supervision of, the authorities of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The appointment, recall, and remuneration

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of Missionaries, and the designation of their fields of labor, shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Managers of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and annual appropriations to Mission fields shall be submitted for revision and approval to the General Committee of Foreign Missions.

§ 3. All Missionaries sent out by this Society shall labor under the direction of the particular Conferences or Missions of the Church in which severally they may be employed. They shall be appointed annually by the President of the Conference or Mission, and shall be subject to the same rules of removal that govern other Missionaries.

§ 4. All the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in foreign lands shall be under the direction of the Conferences or Missions and their Committees in exactly the same manner as the work of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Superintendent or District Superintendent having the same relation to the work and the person in charge of it that he would have were it a work in the Pastoral Charge of any Member of the Conference or Mission.

¶ 417, § 1. The funds of the Society shall not be raised by collections or subscriptions taken during any of our regular Church services; nor in any Sunday School, but shall be raised by such methods as the Constitution of the Society shall provide, none of which shall interfere with the contributions of our people and Sunday Schools to the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the amount so collected shall be reported by the Pastor to the Annual Conference,

and be entered in a column among the Benevolent Collections in the Annual and General Minutes.

§ 2. The provisions of § 1 of this paragraph shall not be interpreted so as to prevent the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society from taking collections in meetings convened in the interest of their Societies; nor from securing memberships and life memberships in audiences where their work is represented; nor from holding festivals or arranging lectures in the interest of their work.

CHAPTER IV

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

I. Incorporation

¶ 418. For the prosecution of Missionary and Church Extension work in the United States, its Territories, and insular possessions, there shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, duly incorporated according to law and having its office in the city of Philadelphia; said Board being subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

NOTE.—For Charter, Constitution, By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report and other publications of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

II. General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension

¶ 419, § 1. There shall be a General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension consisting

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of (1) the Bishops, one of whom, as they may determine from time to time, shall be chairman; (2) the three Corresponding Secretaries elected by the General Conference; the President, the Treasurer, and Recording Secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension; the Recording Secretary being *ex officio* Secretary of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension; (3) two representatives from each General Conference District—one Minister and one Layman—elected by the General Conference on the nomination of the delegates of the Districts, respectively, who shall be the same persons elected to serve on the General Committee of Foreign Missions; (4) as many representatives elected by the Board as there are General Conference Districts, not more than five of whom shall be from any one Annual Conference, and including, as nearly as may be, an equal number of Ministers and Laymen; (5) the representatives provided for in the chapter on City Societies.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the General Committee to meet annually in such place and on such day in the month of November as shall be appointed by the Corresponding Secretaries.

¶ 420. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall determine: (1) What amount each Annual Conference, Mission Conference, and Mission shall be asked to raise by collections for Home Missions and Church Extension; (2) what amount shall be appropriated for Home Missions and what amount shall be authorized for Church Extension within each Annual Conference, Mission Conference, and Mission; (3) what amount shall be set apart for the Contingent Fund for Home Mission

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purposes and what amount shall be set apart as an Emergency Fund in the Church Extension Department; (4) what amount shall be set apart for office expenses, salaries, traveling expenses, publications, and other items; (5) what amount shall be set apart for the education of missionaries among foreign-speaking peoples in the United States.

¶ 421. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall have authority to counsel and direct the Board in the administration of the trusts committed to its care; provided, however, that no direction shall be given to the Board as to donations or loans to particular Churches.

¶ 422, § 1. Expenses incurred by the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension in discharge of its duties shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Board.

§ 2. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension may set apart a sum to be used as a Contingent Fund for Home Mission purposes. This fund shall be used only in the case of unforeseen and unexpected need, and the Board may grant aid from the Contingent Fund on the application of the Pastor, indorsed by the Executive Committee of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, with the approval of the District Superintendent.

§ 3. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension may appropriate an amount each year as an Emergency Fund for Church Extension purposes.

§ 4. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall have power to make such appropriations as it may deem necessary to aid in the

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education of Missionaries among foreign-speaking peoples in the United States.

§ 5. The General Committee shall not appropriate in any year more than the total available net income received by the Treasurer during the preceding fiscal year.

§ 6. The General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall make a Quadrennial Report to the General Conference.

¶ 423, § 1. If a vacancy should occur in the General Committee by the death, resignation, or removal of a District representative from the District of his Conference or Church membership, or otherwise, the Board of Bishops shall fill such vacancy by the appointment of a successor from the Annual Conference to which such representative belonged; or, if a Layman, from within the bounds of the Annual Conference within which he resided, such appointee to hold office until the end of the quadrennium.

§ 2. The General Committee shall have authority to fill any existing vacancy in the Board.

III. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension

¶ 424, § 1. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall consist of thirty-four Ministers and thirty-six Laymen, to be appointed by the General Conference. The Corresponding Secretaries shall be *ex officio* members, to be included in this number. The Board shall have such powers and prerogatives as may be needful for the successful prosecution of its work, and shall be subject to the control of the General Conference.

§ 2. The term of service of the members of the Board shall begin on the second Wednesday in June following their appointment, and continue during the ensuing four years, or until their duly chosen successors shall have entered upon their duties, unless otherwise ordered by the General Conference.

§ 3. The Board shall have authority to declare the seat of any member vacant for inattention to the duties of his office or for other sufficient cause. When there shall be a vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise during the interval between the sessions of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension, the Board shall have power to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of said General Committee.

§ 4. The officers of the Board shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, three Corresponding Secretaries, the said Corresponding Secretaries being the executive officers of the Board, and coördinate in authority; together with a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

§ 5. The three Corresponding Secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference. They shall, under the provisions of the Discipline and the directions of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension and of the Board, conduct its correspondence, and shall, in all their official conduct, be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by which their salaries shall be fixed and paid. They shall be employed exclusively in conducting the affairs of the Board and in promoting its general interest by traveling or otherwise. Should a vacancy occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the

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office until the Bishops shall fill the vacancy. The President, the five Vice-Presidents, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Assistant Treasurer shall be elected by the Board at the regular meeting in November of each year.

§ 6. The Board shall have power to elect Field Secretaries.

¶ 425. When a Bishop shall have been assigned to the Presidency of a Mission or a Mission Conference, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, through its executive officers, shall communicate to him such information as it may possess concerning the Mission or Mission Conference so assigned.

¶ 426, § 1. The Board shall hold its meetings in the city of Philadelphia. It shall have power to make By-laws for the regulation of its proceedings not in conflict with the Charter, the Discipline, or the directions of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension; to provide for and administer a Loan Fund; to establish and administer Annuity Funds, either in connection with, or separate from, the Loan Fund as it may deem wise; to take and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church any real or personal property; to dispose of the same for the use and benefit of the Church; and generally to do all and singular the matters and things which shall be necessary and lawful in the execution of its trust; provided, however, that all amounts received on the Loan Fund shall be used only for loans on adequate security; and provided, further, that the aggregate amount of interest and annuities payable shall never be allowed to exceed the aggregate amount of interest receivable; and provided, also, that an equitable proportion of the expenses of administration of the busi-

ness of the Board shall be charged to and defrayed out of the interest received.

§ 2. The Board also shall have authority to aid, either by donation or by loan, or both, in the erection of parsonages.

§ 3. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall have authority to apply any unused portion of the appropriation made to an Annual Conference to any Charge within the bounds of that Conference.

§ 4. At all meetings of the Board fifteen members shall constitute a quorum. The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the secretary thereof.

§ 5. The Board shall publish quarterly, or oftener, full information concerning its work; and shall submit to the General Conference a report of its proceedings for the preceding four years, and of the state of its funds.

§ 6. The Board shall have authority to solicit and receive funds for the publication and distribution of tracts.

§ 7. The Board shall report annually to the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension.

IV. Department of Cities

¶ 427, § 1. The more effectively to promote the work of City Evangelization, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall organize a Department of Cities, to be directed and administered by the Board in harmony with its other departments. In the cities where Local City Societies have been

duly organized, according to the provisions of the Discipline, and are in active operation, all appropriations for missionary work under the supervision of said Society shall be made to and administered by such Societies, the appropriations for Church Extension being provided for otherwise, as stated in this chapter; provided, however, that in the case of the foreign-speaking Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, or Missions, the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be authorized to designate exceptions to this rule.

§ 2. All City Societies shall report annually to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension their requests for appropriations, indicating the special purpose for which grants are to be used. They shall also report each year to what work the moneys have been applied and shall give in detail a statement which may include (1) number of Churches or Sunday Schools organized; (2) number of buildings erected; (3) number of Ministers or Missionaries supported in part or in whole and the amount paid to them; (4) membership; (5) the amount invested during the year in real estate and in buildings; (6) expenses of administration; (7) the total amount raised and expended by the local Society for the support of current work and for permanent improvements. The summaries of such statements shall be published in connection with the report of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension as a special report, and quadrennially reported to the General Conference. The aim of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be to encourage with resources and influence all City Societies and to promote similar organizations so

far as practicable in all the cities of the United States. (See ¶¶ 439-441.)

V. Annual Conference Board

¶ 428, § 1. In each Annual Conference there shall be a Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, composed of an equal number of Ministers and Laymen, of which the District Superintendents shall be *ex officio* members, the remaining members to be elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the Presiding Bishop. The Conference Board shall elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers, together with three additional members, to be elected by the Conference Board, shall constitute an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have power to recommend emergency or contingent applications. The Secretaries of the Annual Conferences shall notify the office in Philadelphia of the names and post-office addresses of the officers of the Conference Board, and shall publish the same in the Printed Journal.

§ 2. The Annual Conference Board shall hold its regular annual meeting at such time and place as shall be named by the President of such Board, and shall make a report through the President to the Annual Conference during its session, giving a full account of its transactions during the preceding year. Other meetings may be called at any time by the President or three members.

§ 3. The District Superintendents of each Annual Conference, with a representative from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, whenever pos-

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sible, shall be a Committee to distribute all Home Mission funds at the disposal of the Annual Conference, subject to the approval of the Presiding Bishop and the Annual Conference.

§ 4. The Corresponding Secretaries shall send drafts for missionary appropriations and Church Extension Donations and Loans to the Secretary of the Annual Conference Board, payable to the Treasurer, who shall disburse them except as otherwise ordered in the chapter on City Societies (¶ 438, § 1). The Treasurer of the Annual Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall keep an accurate account of all its receipts and disbursements for the year and report annually to the Annual Conference and also to the Board in Philadelphia, and shall transmit with such reports vouchers for all sums disbursed.

§ 5. The Annual Conference Board shall be auxiliary to the Board at Philadelphia, and, under its direction, shall have general supervision of all the interests and work of Home Missions and Church Extension within the Conference. Each Annual Conference shall arrange for an anniversary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension to be held during the session of the Conference, giving to the anniversary an entire evening whenever practicable. Under the authority of the Conference Board, the District Superintendents shall apportion to the several Districts and Pastoral Charges the amounts asked of the Conference, and early in the year shall notify each pastor and Quarterly Conference of the amount of the apportionment. The apportionment so made shall be subject to revision by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

VI. District Board

¶ 429, § 1. There shall be a District Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in each District Superintendent's District, consisting of the District Superintendent and two Ministers and two Laymen (one of whom shall be the Secretary of the District Board), who shall be appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Annual Conference.

§ 2. The Board shall aid in every possible way in creating interest among the people and increasing their general intelligence concerning the work of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. The District Board shall aid also in every reasonable way in the collection of loans.

§ 3. The District Board shall make an annual report of all its transactions during the year to the Secretary of the Annual Conference Board, and also to the Annual Conference.

§ 4. The District Board shall be also a Board of Church Location. As such it shall prevent, as far as possible, the selection of improper sites, and shall consider and determine all questions relating to the selection of new church locations which may be referred to it by the District Superintendent or by the vote of any Quarterly Conference. The decision of said Board shall be final, unless overruled by the Annual Conference. It shall be also the duty of this Board, when requested by the District Superintendent or the Quarterly Conference of the Church undertaking the erection of a new edifice or the extensive remodeling of an existing one, to review carefully the necessities and conditions of the case, as well as the subscriptions for the new enterprise

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and other assets, together with the plans and specifications, with a view of determining whether the same is feasible or not. The Board shall report its conclusions to the District Superintendent and Quarterly Conference. Its decision in such instance shall be considered advisory.

VII. Boards in Mission Conferences and Missions

¶ 430. In Mission Conferences and Missions (the Italian Mission excepted) there shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension appointed by the Bishop and approved by the Mission Conference or Mission, consisting of the Superintendent and two other Ministers and two Laymen. These shall have the same powers and duties within the bounds of the Mission Conference or Mission that the Annual Conference Board has within the bounds of an Annual Conference.

VIII. Administration of Missions

¶ 431, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, in the absence of the Bishop, to preside at the Annual Meeting of a Mission, to arrange the work, to take general supervision of the entire Mission, and to represent the state of the Mission and its needs to the Bishop in charge and to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Board.

§ 2. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission shall designate a time at which all the members of the Mission shall come together for the purpose of holding an Annual Meeting, said meeting possessing, in all ecclesiastical matters, the func-

tions and privileges of a District Conference; and for transacting such other business as may be assigned to it by the Board or may grow out of the local interests of the work. In the absence of a Bishop or Superintendent the Annual Meeting shall choose its presiding officer in the manner provided for District Conferences in such cases.

§ 3. In Missions in the United States, its Territories, and insular possessions, the power to license and to try Local Preachers and to renew the Licenses of Local Preachers and Exhorters shall remain with the respective Quarterly Conferences; and Local Preachers tried and convicted shall have their right of appeal to the Annual Meeting of the Mission, save that two or more Quarterly Conferences may be united for the purpose of licensing preachers.

§ 4. The Ministerial members of the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension shall constitute a Judicial Conference to hear appeals of Local Preachers convicted at an Annual Meeting, said Judicial Conference to be presided over by a Bishop.

§ 5. Wherever Methodist Episcopal Churches are organized in territory outside of an Annual Conference, or of any regular Mission of our Church, such work may be attached to such Annual Conference as the said Churches may elect, with the concurrence of the Bishop having charge of said Conference, and may be constituted a District Superintendent's District.

§ 6. Unless an Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission shall determine otherwise, the Treasurer of its Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall pay missionary appropriations directly

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to the Pastors entitled to receive the same, except in the case of City Societies, as provided for in ¶ 438, § 1.

IX. Italian Missions

¶ 432, § 1. Where Quarterly Conferences are properly organized, the English-speaking District Superintendent within the bounds of whose District the Italian work is being carried on shall preside in the Quarterly Conference and have charge of the local administration, subject to the approval of the Bishop in charge of the Mission. Where there are no regularly organized Quarterly Conferences within the bounds of the Mission, the English-speaking District Superintendent shall visit such local Missions at least twice a year for the purpose of intelligently directing the work.

§ 2. The appointment of Italian-speaking Ministers and workers shall be under the direction of the Mission, and said appointment shall be made by the Bishop in charge.

§ 3. Where there are city organizations they shall have the right to elect from three to five persons to membership in the Mission Quarterly Conference, either from the membership of the said organizations or otherwise, as the city organizations may designate. The persons so elected shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership in the Quarterly Conference.

§ 4. All regular statistical reports and all moneys collected for the Church benevolences within the bounds of the Mission shall be reported by the Mission and shall not appear in the report of the Annual Conferences except as supplementary.

§ 5. A committee on estimate, composed of the Bishop in charge of the Mission, a secretary from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, the Superintendent of the Mission, and one Italian Minister and one Layman (the last two to be named by the Bishop in charge of the Mission), shall prepare a report prior to the meeting of the General Committee, which, after due presentation of the claims of the Mission through the District Superintendent, shall be transmitted to the General Committee through the District Representative.

§ 6. All Italian candidates for our Ministry, either traveling or local, shall be examined in the prescribed course of studies by the committee appointed for that purpose in the Mission, and such candidates shall be examined in the Italian language, and all recommendations for admission into Annual Conferences shall come from said Mission.

X. Annual Conferences and Home Missions and Church Extension

¶ 433. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to examine strictly into the state of the Missions within its bounds, and to allow none to remain on its list of Missions which, in the judgment of the Conference, are capable of self-support. It shall annually report through its Secretary to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension at Philadelphia the name of each District and Charge, within its bounds, sustained in whole or in part by said Conference as a Mission, together with the amount of missionary money appropriated to such for the year;

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and shall publish the same in the Journal of the Annual Conference. The detailed statement shall be given, with totals by Districts and for the Conference, with the certified approval of the Bishop. It shall furnish such other information as may be required by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. Each Annual Conference shall send through its Secretary to the office of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension a copy of its printed Journal as soon as may be practicable.

Each Annual Conference shall arrange, in such way as it may deem best, for an anniversary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, to be held during the session of the Conference.

XI. District Superintendents

¶ 434. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of Home Missions and Church Extension before the Quarterly Conference of each Charge within his District at the last Quarterly Conference in each year; and said Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee, of which one Epworth League President and one Sunday School Superintendent shall be members, to be called the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, whose duty it shall be to aid the Pastor in carrying into effect the provisions of the Discipline and the plans of the Board for the support of this cause, and in securing at least the amount asked of the Pastoral Charge; and the District Superintendent shall inquire in each Quarterly Conference of each year what has been done for this cause, and whether

the amount asked has been received; and if not, he shall urgently request that such measures be taken as will secure the amount before the close of the year. He shall see that the provisions of this section are faithfully executed in his District. He shall inquire at each session of the Quarterly Conference if the Sunday Schools have been organized into Missionary Societies, and if the cause of Home Missions and Church Extension has been properly represented in each school. He shall also urge that the cause of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be presented to the Congregations and people separately from every other cause.

XII. Pastors

¶ 435, § 1. The support of Home Missions and Church Extension is committed to the Churches, Congregations, and Societies as such. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, to provide for the diffusion of information concerning the work of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. He shall preach, or cause to be preached, a sermon on this subject in each Congregation every year. He shall secure a separate presentation of the cause of Home Missions and Church Extension, and a collection separate from every other cause for the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and, aided by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, shall solicit a contribution from each member of the Church and Congregation, endeavoring to secure at least the amount asked as above provided; and he shall, at the Annual Con-

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ference, report the amount received. He shall invite also special contributions in aid of the Annuity and Loan Fund of the Board. Each Pastor is exhorted to utilize the services of the Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, to institute a bimonthly missionary prayer meeting or lecture in each Society, Church, Congregation, or Sunday School wherever practicable, for the purpose of imploring the divine blessing on Home Missions and Church Extension, and for the diffusion of missionary intelligence.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to see that each Sunday School on his Charge is organized into a Missionary Society, and that at least one Sunday of each month is observed in the interest of Missions and a collection taken, which shall be divided as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent. to the Board of Sunday Schools; and all contributions of the Sunday Schools shall be reported in a separate column in the Annual and General Minutes. With the coöperation of the Local Sunday School Board, it shall be the duty of the Sunday School Missionary Society to provide brief missionary exercises in the Sunday School on the day that the monthly missionary collection is taken, to cause suitable literature to be distributed in the Sunday School, and to arrange for occasional missionary concerts. The Sunday School Missionary Society shall include Home Missions and Church Extension, Foreign Missions, and the Board of Sunday Schools.

XIII. Applications for Church Extension Aid

¶ 436, § 1. All applications for Church Extension aid shall be made in accordance with blank forms, to be furnished by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. Every such application shall be forwarded to the Conference Board, and the Conference Board shall forward the same, with proper recommendations, to the Corresponding Secretaries, who shall submit all applications to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension at a regular or special meeting. The Board shall not consider any application without the recommendation of the Conference Board, except as hereinbefore provided.

§ 2. Nothing in the chapter defining the Conference organization of the work of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall supersede or affect the administration of the missionary work and appropriations in cities as provided for in the chapter on City Societies.

CHAPTER V

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 437. There shall be an organization known as the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which Society shall have authority to collect and disburse money, employ Missionaries, and do work among the neglected populations in the home field under the same Disciplinary rules and regulations as those which apply to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, except the requirements contained in ¶ 416, §§ 3, 4.

ference, report the amount received. He shall invite also special contributions in aid of the Annuity and Loan Fund of the Board. Each Pastor is exhorted to utilize the services of the Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, to institute a bimonthly missionary prayer meeting or lecture in each Society, Church, Congregation, or Sunday School wherever practicable, for the purpose of imploring the divine blessing on Home Missions and Church Extension, and for the diffusion of missionary intelligence.

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XIII. Applications for Church Extension Aid

¶ 436, § 1. All applications for Church Extension aid shall be made in accordance with blank forms, to be furnished by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. Every such application shall be forwarded to the Conference Board, and the Conference Board shall forward the same, with proper recommendations, to the Corresponding Secretaries, who shall submit all applications to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension at a regular or special meeting. The Board shall not consider any application without the recommendation of the Conference Board, except as hereinbefore provided.

§ 2. Nothing in the chapter defining the Conference organization of the work of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall supersede or affect the administration of the missionary work and appropriations in cities as provided for in the chapter on City Societies.

CHAPTER V

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 437. There shall be an organization known as the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which Society shall have authority to collect and disburse money, employ Missionaries, and do work among the neglected populations in the home field under the same Disciplinary rules and regulations as those which apply to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, except the requirements contained in ¶ 416, §§ 3, 4.

CHAPTER VI

CITY SOCIETIES

I. Board of Management

¶ 438, § 1. For the promotion of evangelization and the coördination of community work in cities, it is recommended that in every city and in other communities contiguous to each other where the Methodist Episcopal Church has three or more Pastoral Charges, a local City Society be organized with such name and Board of Management as it shall determine; provided, that every regular Pastor in the territory covered by the Society's Constitution or Charter and every District Superintendent having jurisdiction therein, and the resident Bishop, if there be one, shall be recognized as members of the Board of Management and that each Quarterly Conference shall be entitled to at least one representative in said Board.

§ 2. The City Society, in the scope of its work, may properly include among other objects the organization of Churches and Sunday Schools, the aid of weak Churches, the purchase of property and the erection of buildings, the changing of downtown Churches into new religious centers with modern methods of service, the conducting of Missions among foreign-speaking populations, the maintaining of kindergartens and industrial schools, the promotion of evangelistic, social, and settlement work, the support of Rescue Missions and of institutions for the relief of the sick and the

destitute and for the recovery of the outcast. A City Society may also combine with its plans for Missionary, Church Extension, and Industrial work, methods for promoting the connectional social life of the Methodism of the city and for developing and strengthening the community of interest among the several Methodist Episcopal Churches.

II. City Societies of the First Class

¶ 439, § 1. There shall be recognized two classes of City Societies. To City Societies of the First Class belong those City Societies which meet the following conditions: They shall be organized in harmony with the provisions of the Discipline (¶ 438); shall have an Executive Board which meets at least once in every three months; shall be actively and effectively at work; shall annually raise funds in substantial amount, and in any case an amount equal to that appropriated to it by the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension, exclusive of appropriations made for work among foreign-speaking peoples.

§ 2. The City Societies of the First Class shall be entitled to three representatives in the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension, who shall be chosen by a Council composed of two delegates from each such City Society, the executive officers of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and three members of the Department of Cities. It shall be the duty of the Department of Cities annually to convene this Council at a suitable time and place.

§ 3. If in any year the Council, for sufficient reason, shall not convene, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall elect the representatives herein provided. In so doing it shall confine its selection to members of the executive boards of City Societies of the First Class, and shall see that not more than one representative from any one City Society shall be chosen to the General Committee.

§ 4. To City Societies of the First Class, appropriations shall be made by the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension, to be administered as provided in ¶ 427. Drafts in payment of such appropriations shall be sent directly to the Treasurer of such organization, a separate notice of the draft being transmitted to the Treasurer of the Conference Board, who shall report the same to the Annual Conference. Where parts of two or more Conferences are in the same city separate drafts shall be sent for the work in each Conference, and notice of such drafts shall be transmitted to the Treasurers of the General Conference Boards.

III. City Societies of the Second Class

¶ 440, § 1. To City Societies of the Second Class belong City Societies which either from lack of local interest or from inadequate organization or resources are but partly developed. In the case of City Societies of the Second Class, the mode of administration shall be determined by the General Committee of Home Missions and Church Extension, and the relation of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be directive, the aim of the Board being

to develop such City Societies so that when duly organized and in effective operation they may carry on the missionary work in the cities in which they exist and as rapidly as possible may be placed among the City Societies of the First Class.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of all City Societies, through their Superintendents or other officers, to furnish to the District Superintendent and the Bishop who are administering the work under the Society's care full information concerning the Pastoral Charges receiving aid from the Society.

§ 3. City Societies shall have authority, each in the territory covered by its Constitution or Charter, to collect and disburse money for the objects contemplated in their organization.

IV. District Superintendents, Pastors, etc.

¶ 441, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent, whose District covers in whole or in part a city, or contiguous communities where there are three or more Charges, to cooperate with the Department of Cities of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in securing the organization of a City Society as herein provided, and he shall exercise special supervision over it until other provision be made for its superintendence, and shall include in his report to the Annual Conference a statement of the needs and conditions of the City Societies on his District. He shall also urge that the cause of City Missions be presented to the congregation and people separately from every other collection.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of each Pastor stationed

within the territory included in the Charter or Constitution of any City Society once each year to present the cause of city evangelization to his congregation, to take a collection for the City Society, and to report the amount to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Annual Conferences are directed to take such friendly interest in the City Societies within their bounds as shall promote their efficiency and facilitate their work; to arrange for the publication of their reports in the Conference Minutes, and to provide a separate column in connection with the statement of the General Benevolent collections for the itemized report of the offerings for their work.

CHAPTER VII

FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY

I. General Object

¶ 442. The work of the Freedmen's Aid Society shall be the establishment and maintenance of institutions for Christian education among the colored people in the Southern States and elsewhere. The instruction in these institutions shall include such literary, professional, and biblical courses of study and such industrial training as will tend to develop the highest Christian character. These institutions shall be located with reference to an educational system comprising collegiate centers and coöperative preparatory academies, so that with the greatest economy the educational needs of the people may be

most fully met. Contributions shall be taken through the Church for the maintenance and support of this work, and for this purpose Lincoln's Birthday shall be observed wherever practicable. The schools shall be made self-supporting as rapidly as the financial condition of the people will permit. Special efforts shall be made to secure permanent endowments for the various institutions, and the Board of Managers, whenever it is satisfied that the support will be ample and that the property will be maintained and perpetuated, may convey the control of said schools to a local Board of Trustees.

II. Board of Managers

¶ 443. There shall be a Board of Managers consisting of five Bishops, twelve Ministers, and twelve Laymen, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, upon nomination by the Bishops; their term of service shall begin on the second Wednesday in June following their election, and continue until their successors shall enter upon their duties. An interim vacancy shall be filled by the Bishops until the session of the ensuing General Conference, and the absence of any member from four consecutive meetings of the Board without reasonable excuse shall create a vacancy. The Board of Managers, being incorporated according to law, shall be subject to the control of the General Conference and the provisions of the Discipline, and shall have such powers and prerogatives as are needed to conduct the work of the Society, except in such matters as are placed under the authority of the General Committee. Eleven

members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business, except the appropriation or disposition of funds under the direct control of the General Committee and the purchase and sale of real estate, in which cases a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrent vote of eleven members shall be necessary to complete any such transaction. The Board shall make a quadrennial report to the General Conference, and shall publish quarterly, or oftener, full information concerning its work.

III. Officers

¶ 444, § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, three or more Vice-Presidents, two coordinate Corresponding Secretaries, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer, all of whom, except the Corresponding Secretaries, shall be elected by the Board at its annual meeting each year; but a vacancy may be filled at any meeting.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference, and as administrative Officers shall be in all official acts subject to the authority and control of the Board of Managers and the direction of the General Committee. Their time shall be occupied, under the direction of the Board, in promoting the interests of the Society by conducting the correspondence and office work, traveling through the Church, giving general supervision to the institutions of learning under the care of the Society, and rendering other needful forms of service. In case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall provide for the duties of the office

until the Bishops shall fill the vacancy. The Board shall fix and pay the respective salaries of all its salaried Officers.

§ 3. The Publishing Agent at Cincinnati shall be the Treasurer of the Society, and the Board of Managers may appoint such Assistant Treasurers as it deems wise.

IV. General Committee

¶ 445, § 1. There shall be a General Committee of the Freedmen's Aid Society, composed as follows: (1) The Bishops; (2) the Corresponding Secretaries, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary of the Board of Managers, who shall be *ex officio* Secretary of the General Committee; (3) the two representatives of each General Conference District elected by the General Conference to the General Committee of Foreign Missions; (4) fifteen representatives, to be selected by the Board of Managers from its own body. The General Committee shall meet annually in such place and on such day in November as shall be fixed by the Corresponding Secretaries: To receive and consider the annual report of the Board of Managers; to designate what institutions shall receive aid for the ensuing year, and, as far as practicable, the amount each school shall receive; to determine the total amount to be expended in the support of the schools and for administrative purposes; to fix the amount to be apportioned to each Annual Conference to be raised for the use of the Board, and to counsel and direct the Board in the general administration of its affairs. It shall have authority, for neglect of official duties or for other cause, to de-

clare vacant the seat of any member of the Board of Managers.

§ 2. If a vacancy should occur in the General Committee by death, resignation, or the removal of a District representative from the District of his Conference or Church membership, or otherwise, the Board of Bishops shall fill such vacancy by the appointment of a successor from the Annual Conference to which such representative belonged; or, if a Layman, from within the bounds of the Annual Conference within which he resided, such appointee to hold office until the end of the quadrennium.

V. District Superintendents and Pastors

¶ 446, § 1. Each District Superintendent, as early in the Conference year as possible, shall inform each Pastor in his District of the amount to be raised in his Pastoral Charge, and he shall also inquire at the third Quarterly Conference if the amount asked for has been raised, and if not, he shall urge that it be secured before the close of the Conference year.

§ 2. At the last Quarterly Conference of each year a Committee of not less than three nor more than nine shall be appointed, of which the Pastor shall be the Chairman, to be called the Committee on Freedmen's Aid, whose duty it shall be to aid in carrying into effect the provisions of the Discipline and the plans of the Officers and Managers of the Society for the support of this cause, so that at least the amount asked for each year from the Pastoral Charge shall be secured. The Committee shall also see that information concerning this work is diffused among

the people, using as one means for this purpose the literature published by the Society.

¶ 447. The Pastor once a year shall present the claims of this work to his people, and ask contributions for the support of the same, and the Committee on Freedmen's Aid shall coöperate in securing and collecting contributions. To this end the Pastor shall preach, or cause to be preached, a sermon on this subject; and shall report the amount secured to the Annual Conference for publication in both the General Minutes and the Minutes of the Annual Conference.

CHAPTER VIII

BOARD OF EDUCATION

I. Incorporation and Officers

¶ 448, § 1. For the promotion of the educational work of the Church there shall be a Board known as the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as now duly incorporated according to the laws of the State of New York, shall be recognized as said Board of Education until changed by the General Conference; and the said Board shall manage its affairs and property in such manner as shall not be inconsistent with its Charter or the rules and regulations of said General Conference.

§ 2. The Board of Education shall consist of thirty-six members, one half to be Laymen, and at least

three to be Bishops, with at least one member resident in each General Conference District. These members shall be elected by the General Conference and shall hold office for twelve years; one third of the Board shall be elected at each General Conference, provided that upon the first election one third of the members shall be elected for four years, one third for eight years, and one third for twelve years.

¶ 449, § 1. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference, and, under the provisions of the Discipline and the direction of the Board, he shall conduct the correspondence, and in all his official conduct shall be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by which his salary shall be fixed and paid. His time shall be employed in conducting the affairs of the Board and, under its direction, in promoting its general interests by traveling or otherwise.

§ 2. Any vacancy in this office, caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board, until the Bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy.

II. Functions of the Board

¶ 450, § 1. The Board of Education shall have an advisory relation to the business and educational management of our schools and colleges. It shall devise ways and means for the aid of institutions, and shall receive and disburse such funds as shall be committed to it from time to time. It may serve as a Board of Reference or Arbitration, and when necessary may take measures to protect the property interests of our educational institutions.

§ 2. No institution of learning shall be recognized by the Board of Education as under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, be named in its classified list of such institutions, or receive aid from its connectional educational funds, unless it first receive the approval of the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is located, and of the Conferences associated in its management, as well as the approval of the Board of Education.

§ 3. The Board of Education shall recognize as auxiliaries such Educational Societies as now exist, or may hereafter be created, provided that such Societies shall prosecute their work in harmony with the principles and methods of the Board of Education.

¶ 451, § 1. The Board of Education shall receive, invest, and disburse the fund known as the "Sunday School Children's Fund" and such other funds as are now in its hands or may be committed to it for educational purposes (¶ 456).

§ 2. The Board of Education shall administer the Children's Fund to assist worthy young people, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in obtaining a more advanced education. Aid shall be granted only in the form of loans; but, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, the Board shall have the authority to cancel said loans, in part or in whole, for causes which seem to them sufficient.

III. Annual Conference Board

¶ 452, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Education. This Annual Con-

ference Board shall consist of one Minister and one Layman or two Ministers and two Laymen from each District, as the Annual Conference shall determine, to be elected by the Annual Conference upon nomination by the Conference Committee on Education, or by such other method as the Annual Conference may direct. All presidents of colleges or universities, and principals of secondary schools, which have no organic relation with such institutions, within the bounds of the Annual Conference, if approved by the University Senate, shall be members *ex officio* of this Annual Conference Board.

§ 2. The said Board shall organize by the election of a President and a Secretary. It shall be the duty of this Board to provide for the visitation once each year of the approved educational institutions within the Annual Conference, and to make a report upon such institutions to the Annual Conference and to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The said Annual Conference Board shall have charge of the anniversary of the Board of Education at the Annual Conference session, provided that the Annual Conference shall so order. There shall be at least one meeting of the Annual Conference Board of Education each year for the consideration and promotion within the Annual Conference of the general and local interests of education, at which meeting the Corresponding Secretary or other representative of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be present if possible. The said Annual Conference Board shall provide for the presentation of the cause of education within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and may arrange for conventions or other public meetings.

IV. Educational Institutions

¶ 453, § 1. The educational institutions under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be classified as follows:

1. Primary Schools.
2. Secondary Schools.
3. Colleges.
4. Universities.
5. Schools of Theology.

§ 2. In mission fields and elsewhere, if inadequate provision has been made for elementary instruction, primary schools may be established.

§ 3. Wherever the conditions are favorable, each Conference may have under its direct supervision one or more secondary schools known as academies, seminaries, or collegiate institutes.

§ 4. Conferences shall not approve the multiplication of colleges or universities beyond the needs of the people or their ability to equip and sustain them.

§ 5. Theological schools, whose professors are nominated or confirmed by the Bishops, exist for the benefit of the whole Church. It is the duty of the Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to direct the attention of our young people to our literary institutions, and of the candidates for the Ministry, having proper qualifications, to our theological seminaries.

§ 6. The Board of Education shall publish in its annual report a list of all the educational institutions under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, classifying the same according to the provisions contained in § 1 of this paragraph. It shall be the duty of the President or other admin-

istrative officer of each educational institution to furnish to the Board of Education such statistics or other information as may enable the Board to make a report of the standing and equipment of each of our schools.

V. University Senate

¶ 454, § 1. There shall be a University Senate of the Methodist Episcopal Church, quadrennially appointed by the Bishops under the authority of the General Conference. It shall be composed of persons actively engaged in the work of education, one from each General Conference District and one at large. It is not required that the Conference relation of a ministerial member be held in the General Conference District which he represents, provided his residence and educational work are within such District. If, in consequence of the retirement of a member from educational work, or from any other cause, a vacancy occur in the body during the quadrennium, it shall be the duty of the Bishops at their next semi-annual meeting to fill such vacancy.

§ 2. The Senate shall determine and at least quadrennially revise the minimum equivalents of academic work to be required for promotion to the Baccalaureate degrees in the educational institutions of the Church. The curricula thus determined shall provide for the historical and literary study of the Bible in the vernacular. In general, the Senate shall have authority to protect the educational standards of our Church.

§ 3. At the written request of the President and Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education,

or at the written request of any three of its own members, the Senate shall investigate the scholastic requirements and methods of any designated institution claiming to be under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall report to the Board of Education its decision as to whether the requirements and methods of said institution are such as to justify its official recognition by the authorities of the Church. Such decision shall govern thereafter the action of the Board of Education.

§ 4. The Senate shall report at least quadrennially to the Board of Education its requirements and decisions, and on the basis of these the Board of Education shall in its official lists and in its administration classify the educational institutions of the Church, whatever their legal or self-chosen names may be.

VI. District Superintendents

¶ 455, § 1. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of education before the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge within his District, and the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee on Education, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven persons, of which Committee the Pastor shall be chairman. This Committee shall aid the Pastor in canvassing the Charge for the purpose of stimulating interest in the higher education of our youth, by distributing the catalogues and circulars of the secondary schools, colleges, universities, and theological institutions of the Church, and by seeking to secure the attendance of our young people upon these institutions.

§ 2. The District Superintendent at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge shall inquire:

1. Has the Sermon on Education been preached during the year, when, and by whom?

2. Has the canvass for education been made, and the collection for Education been taken? Has Children's Day been observed, and have its collections been taken as required by the Discipline? How much was contributed for each of these purposes?

3. What students within the Pastoral Charge are attending any of the secondary schools, colleges, universities, or theological schools of the Church?

4. What young people within the Pastoral Charge should attend our schools and colleges in the near future? Have their names been sent to the educational institutions supported by the Conference?

VII. Pastors

¶ 456, § 1. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to take one public collection annually in each Society in aid of the general work of education. Of the money so received, eighty per cent shall be paid to such institutions or to such auxiliaries of the Board of Education as the Annual Conference may direct, and twenty per cent shall be paid to the Board of Education. The moneys received by the Board of Education from this collection shall constitute a fund for the aid of institutions, which fund shall be administered by the Board of Education under such rules as it may adopt; provided, however, that all moneys received from the said public collections shall

be entered in a separate account on the books of the Board of Education, and shall be used only for educational purposes in connection with our schools of learning in the United States.

§ 2. In the distribution of this fund the Board of Education shall give consideration by way of special appropriations to institutions during the period of endowment or building campaigns, and shall be authorized to pay over the twenty per cent received from the public educational collection, or so much of it as may be deemed advisable, to institutions which are dependent upon exceptionally large Conference collections.

¶ 457. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause every Sunday School under his charge to observe the second Sunday in June, or such other Sunday as may be more convenient, as Children's Day, and upon said day, as part of the service, he shall take a collection to be devoted to the Sunday School Children's Fund. The Pastor shall forward the collection aforesaid directly to the Secretary of the Board of Education, and report the same to his Annual Conference under the head of "Children's Fund."

¶ 458. The Treasurer of each Annual Conference at the close of each Conference session shall report to the Board of Education the amount of all moneys raised for educational purposes and the objects to which they have been applied.

CHAPTER IX

BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

I. Incorporation

¶ 459, § 1. For the moral and religious instruction of our children, and for the promotion of Bible knowledge among all our people, there shall be a Board of Sunday Schools, duly incorporated according to the laws of the State of Illinois, and having its headquarters in the city of Chicago. The said Board shall have general oversight of all the Sunday School interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

§ 2. The Board of Sunday Schools shall be composed of the Corresponding Secretary of said Board and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, who shall be *ex officio* members thereof; three effective Bishops, one member from each General Conference District, who shall reside therein, and a sufficient number of members at large to make up the number of twenty-nine as the entire membership of said Board. There shall be both lay and clerical members, such as are expert in Sunday School work. All the members of said Board except the two *ex officio* members shall be elected by the General Conference upon nomination of the Board of Bishops.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of said Board to found Sunday Schools in needy neighborhoods; to contrib-

ute to the support of Sunday Schools requiring assistance; to educate the Church in all phases of Sunday School work, constantly endeavoring to raise ideals and improve methods; to determine the Sunday School curriculum, including the courses for teacher training; and, in general, to give impulse and direction to the study of the Bible in the Church. It shall also be the duty of said Board, after consultation with the Editor of Sunday School Publications, to recommend to the Book Committee the kind and character of literature, requisites, supplies, etc., needed for use in our Sunday Schools; and the Publishing Agents shall provide and publish such literature, requisites, and supplies as, in the judgment of the Book Committee, the best interests of the Church may demand. The Board of Sunday Schools each year shall make an estimate of the amount of money needed for its work and notify the Conferences, the District Superintendents, and the Pastors of the amount required from the respective charges.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Board of Sunday Schools to revise annually its list of members. In case any member representing a General Conference District remove therefrom, it shall declare his office vacant, and in case any member be inattentive to the duties of his office, or guilty of improper conduct, it may remove him by a majority vote of all of the members of said Board. All vacancies in said Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members thereof.

§ 5. The executive officers of the Board shall be the Corresponding Secretary and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, whose duties shall be as hereinafter defined.

§ 6. The German Editor of Sunday School Publications in Cincinnati shall be the German Assistant Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, without additional salary. He shall also be an advisory member of the Board.

II. Corresponding Secretary

¶ 460, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the authority, direction, and control of said Board, he shall conduct its correspondence and business, except so far as they relate to the duties of the Editor of Sunday School Publications. It shall be his duty to recommend to the Book Committee the preparation and publication of such Sunday School requisites and supplies as in his judgment may be necessary. His salary shall be fixed by the Board of Sunday Schools and paid out of the funds thereof. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools may be suspended by said Board for any cause it may deem sufficient. In case of such suspension said Board shall fix a time, at as early a date as practicable, for the investigation of his conduct, and shall send due notice thereof to the Board of Bishops, who shall select one of their number to be present and preside at said investigation. After such investigation, said Corresponding Secretary may be removed by a majority vote of the entire Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 3. Any vacancy in this office caused by death,

resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board until the Bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy.

III. Editor of Sunday School Publications

¶ 461, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially an Editor of Sunday School Publications.

§ 2. He shall prepare and edit all books and literature included in the Sunday School Curriculum, and all other required Sunday School publications.

§ 3. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board of Sunday Schools, but his salary shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Publishing Agents. He shall be amenable to the Book Committee as provided in the Discipline.

IV. Other Officers

¶ 462, § 1. The Board shall elect from among its members a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. It may, at its discretion, elect an Assistant Corresponding Secretary and such other Assistants as it may deem necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the work of the Board.

§ 2. All these officers shall be amenable to the Board for the faithful performance of their duties and may be discontinued or removed by a majority vote of the Board. Their compensation shall be fixed by the Board and paid out of its funds.

V. Conference Board of Sunday Schools

¶ 463, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize a Conference Board of Sunday Schools. Said Board shall consist of the Superintendent of each District *ex officio* and an equal number of Laymen and Ministers from each District. This Conference Board shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The said Conference Board shall have general oversight of the Sunday School interests of the Conference. The officers of said Board shall be a President, Vice-President, and Secretary. In addition to his ordinary duties the Secretary shall keep the statistics of the Sunday Schools within the Annual Conference, including the record of new schools established and of those disbanded.

§ 2. Among the duties of the Board will be the holding of a Sunday School Institute during the progress of the Annual Conference, whenever possible; also the maintenance of a Pastors' Institute annually in each Superintendent's District, to consider the work of ingathering and upbuilding, the relation of the District Superintendent and the Pastor to the Sunday School, and other topics of vital interest. Such meetings shall be held whenever practicable in connection with the meeting of the District Conference or Ministers' Association. To this meeting Sunday School workers in general may be invited.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Conference Board to present the following Standard Requirements for Sunday Schools:

- (a) A Cradle Roll.
- (b) A Home Department.

(c) Departments or Class groups for the following approximate ages: Beginners, 3 to 6 years; Primary, 6 to 9 years; Junior, 9 to 13 years; Intermediate, 13 to 17 years; Senior, 17 to 20 years; Adult, over 20 years.

(d) The use of lesson helps authorized by the General Conference and published for these departments, either in the Uniform or the Graded Course.

(e) Supplemental lessons taught in the first four departments or groups of classes, whenever these departments or groups use the Uniform Lesson Series.

(f) A teacher-training class, or students using one of the Courses approved by the Board of Sunday Schools.

(g) One or more organized adult Bible classes.

(h) A Sunday School Missionary organization.

(i) A Sunday School Temperance organization.

(j) A Committee on Sunday School Evangelism with the observance of Decision Day or its equivalent.

(k) The observance of Sunday School Rally Day, with an offering for the Board of Sunday Schools, as authorized by the General Conference.

§ 4. It shall be also the duty of this Board to distribute at the Annual Conference and elsewhere literature issued by the Board of Sunday Schools, to stimulate better organization, instruction, and equipment in the Sunday Schools, to promote Sunday School growth and extension, and to devise wise plans for evangelistic efforts in the Sunday Schools. Said Board shall take the place of the usual Annual Conference Committee on Sunday Schools, and shall make an annual report on Sunday School conditions and progress to the Conference and to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

VI. Local Sunday School Board

¶ 464, § 1. Every Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be under the supervision of a Local Sunday School Board, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* Chairman, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, the Assistant Superintendents, the heads of departments, the duly elected Secretaries, Treasurer, and Librarians, the Teachers of the Schools, the Assistant Teachers, who are nominated and elected in the same way as the Teachers, and the Presidents of the Sunday School Missionary and Temperance Societies. Home Department visitors shall be elected in the same manner as the Teachers, and shall be members of the Local Sunday School Board. In case of the withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the school, they shall cease to be members of the Board.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Local Sunday School Board, wherever practicable, to organize the Sunday Schools into Temperance Societies, under such rules and regulations as the Local Board may prescribe. The duty of such Societies shall be to see that temperance instruction is imparted in the Sunday School, and to secure, so far as possible, the pledging of its members to total abstinence.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, together with the Local Sunday School Board, to observe Sunday School Rally Day in each School

under his charge as provided in ¶ 467, § 1, and to take a collection in said School at least once a year for the Board of Sunday Schools.

VII. Sunday School Officers and Teachers

¶ 465, § 1. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its first session after such election, and in case of a vacancy the Pastor shall superintend or secure the superintending of the School until such time as a Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board shall be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 3. The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and shall be elected annually by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 4. The place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglectful, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two thirds of the Local Sunday School Board present at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, his membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to report to each Quarterly Conference:

1. Name of Sunday School.
2. Number of Officers and Teachers.

3. Number of Scholars in all grades.
4. Average Attendance.
5. Number of Scholars in Home Department.
6. Number of Members on the Cradle Roll.
7. Number of Officers and Teachers members of the Church or Probationers.
8. Number of Scholars (whether attendants or members of Home Department) members of the Church or Probationers.
9. Number of Sunday School Scholars converted and uniting with the Church during the quarter.
10. Current expenses for the quarter.
11. Amount raised for Missions during the quarter.
12. Amount raised for the Board of Sunday Schools during the quarter.

VIII. District Superintendents

¶ 466, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to apportion to the Charges on his District such part of the total amount assumed by the Annual Conference for the Board of Sunday Schools as properly belongs to his District.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to bring the subject of Sunday Schools before the fourth Quarterly Conference; and said Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee of members of our Church of not less than three nor more than nine for each Sunday School in the Charge, to be called the Committee on Sunday Schools, whose duty shall be as hereinafter described.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the District Superin-

tendent to aid in all possible ways in developing the efficiency of existing Sunday Schools and especially in establishing and fostering new schools.

IX. Pastors

¶ 467, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Superintendent and the Committee on Sunday Schools, to decide as to what books and other publications shall be used in the Sunday Schools.

§ 2. It shall be the special duty of the Pastor, with the aid of the other Preachers and the Committee on Sunday Schools, to form Sunday Schools in all our Congregations where ten persons can be collected for that purpose, which Schools shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church; to engage the coöperation of as many of our members as he can; to visit the Schools as often as practicable; to preach on the subject of Sunday Schools and the religious instruction of children in each Congregation at least once in six months; to form classes, wherever practicable, for the instruction of the larger children, youth, and adults in the Word of God; and where he cannot superintend them personally, to see that suitable Teachers are provided for that purpose.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor faithfully to enforce upon parents and Sunday School Teachers the great importance of instructing children in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion; to see that our Catechisms be used as extensively as possible in our Sunday Schools and families; and to preach to the children and catechize them publicly in the Sun-

day Schools and at public meetings appointed for that purpose.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Pastor in his pastoral visits to pay special attention to the children; to speak to them personally and kindly according to their capacity on the subject of experimental and practical godliness; to pray earnestly for them; and diligently to instruct and exhort all parents to dedicate their children to the Lord in Baptism as early as convenient.

§ 5. Each Pastor shall lay before the Quarterly Conference, to be entered on its Journal, the number and state of the Sunday Schools in his Pastoral Charge, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them, and shall make the required report on Sunday Schools to his Annual Conference.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause each Church under his Charge to observe the last Sunday in October, or such other Sunday as may be more convenient, as Sunday School Day, and upon said day as part of the service he shall take a collection to be devoted to the maintenance and advancement of Sunday School work throughout the bounds of the Church. The Pastor shall forward the said collection directly to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 7. The monthly Missionary offering taken in the Sunday School, as provided in ¶¶ 415, § 1, and 435, § 3, shall be divided as follows: to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent; to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, forty-five per cent; and to the Board of Sunday Schools, ten per cent.

X. Quarterly Conference Sunday School Committee

¶ 468. It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference to be in regular attendance at the Sunday School session, and to assist the Pastor and the local Sunday School Board by suggesting to the Superintendent the names of suitable teachers; to see that the School reaches and maintains the "standard points of excellence" established by the Board of Sunday Schools; to secure needed supplies and requisites for the Sunday School; and to coöperate in providing facilities for the week-day recreational life of the young people.

It shall further secure adequate time for the Sunday School session; provide for a Sunday School anniversary in the Church service every year; promote an annual house-to-house visitation to increase Sunday School membership, Bible study and family worship in the home, and also aim to secure every member of the Church as a member of some department of the Sunday School.

CHAPTER X

BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS

I. Authorization and Officers

¶ 469, § 1. There shall be a Board of Conference Claimants, nominated by the Bishops and elected by the General Conference, consisting of one effective Bishop, seven Ministers, and seven Laymen. No An-

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nual Conference shall have more than one representative on the Board.

§ 2. The Board of Conference Claimants shall be duly and legally incorporated, according to the laws of the State of Illinois, with such powers and prerogatives as shall be needful for the accomplishing of the objects of the Board as herein stated. This Board is authorized to adopt such measures as in its judgment are necessary to build up and administer a Connectional Permanent Fund which is hereby established, and to increase the revenues for the benefit of Conference Claimants; provided, however, that it shall not have authority to make any apportionment whatever either to the Annual Conferences or to the Pastoral Charges. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. The office of the Board shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

§ 3. The expenses of administration shall be taken from the two per cent of collections from Pastoral Charges, and any other funds in the hands of the Board not otherwise designated.

§ 4. The term of service of the members of this Board shall be four years, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Vacancies occurring during the interval of the General Conference shall be filled by the Board upon nomination by the Bishops.

II. Corresponding Secretary

¶ 470. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary who shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the chief executive officer of the Board. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the au-

thority, direction, and control of the Board, of which he shall be an advisory member, he shall conduct the correspondence and business. His time shall be employed in conducting the affairs and promoting the general interests for which the Board was created.

III. Connectional Relief

¶ 471, § 1. Connectional Relief for Conference Claimants is established that the Preachers and people of the stronger Annual Conferences may be united with those of the weaker Conferences in one connectional or general plan in order that, by such coöperation, a more equitable and general support may be secured for Retired Ministers and other Conference Claimants, especially for those in the more needy Conferences.

§ 2. Such Connectional Relief shall consist of:

1. The three per cent of the annual collections for Conference Claimants forwarded from the Annual Conferences ¶ 326.

2. The income from all other sources the use of which is not otherwise designated and which is not required for the maintenance of the Board.

IV. Administration of Connectional Relief

¶ 472, § 1. Moneys for Connectional Relief shall be distributed by the Board of Conference Claimants at its Annual Meeting.

§ 2. The distribution of Connectional Relief shall be made to the Annual Conferences severally and not to the individual claimant.

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§ 3. The Board of Conference Claimants, in determining the Dividend for Connectional Relief, shall ascertain from the authorized reports of the Conference Stewards of the several Annual Conferences what Conferences are in need of Connectional Relief, and shall make the distribution to such Conferences according to their need as this shall appear from such reports.

§ 4. The Remainder of the available funds shall be distributed among the other Conferences as the Board of Conference Claimants may determine to be wise and equitable in view of all the data in its possession.

§ 5. No Conference shall receive Connectional Relief unless its share of the annual collections shall have been paid to the Board of Conference Claimants.

V. Reports

¶ 473, § 1. The Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants shall send to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference a draft for the Dividend for Connectional Relief, together with the last Annual Report of the Board; in which shall be shown the resources of the Board, the amount and distribution of its income, and such other information concerning the work of the Church in behalf of Conference Claimants as the Board may obtain.

§ 2. The Conference Stewards shall forward to the Board of Conference Claimants a certified copy of their Report, made on blanks furnished by the Board of Conference Claimants, in which shall be shown the annuities and allowances made to each Confer-

ence Claimant, together with additional data for the guidance of the Board of Conference Claimants in making its Dividend for Connectional Relief and in preparing its Annual Report.

CHAPTER XI

EPWORTH LEAGUE

I. Constitution

¶ 474, § 1. For the purpose of promoting intelligence and vital piety among the young people of our Churches and Congregations, and of training them in works of mercy and help, there shall be an organization under the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and governed by the following Constitution:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. *Name.* The title of this organization shall be "The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

§ 2. ARTICLE II. *Object.* The object of the League shall be to promote intelligence and vital piety in the young members and friends of the Church, to aid them in the attainment of purity of heart and constant growth in grace, and to train them in works of mercy and help.

§ 3. ARTICLE III. *Organization.* With a view of carrying out the objects of the League, the Chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may

be approved by the Quarterly Conferences shall be organized into District Superintendents' District Leagues, and may also be formed into General Conference District Leagues. Other groupings may be arranged for the advantage of the work, such as Annual Conference Leagues, State Leagues, and City Leagues. The Chapter shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference and Pastor. Any Young People's Society may become an affiliated Chapter of the Epworth League, provided that it adopt the aims of the League, that its President and other Officers and its general plans of work are approved by the Pastor and Official Board or Quarterly Conference, and that it is enrolled at the Central Office.

§ 4. ARTICLE IV. *Government.* The management of the Epworth League shall be vested in a Board of Control, which shall consist of a Bishop and one member from each General Conference District, nominated by the delegates of the respective General Conference Districts, and elected by the General Conference, the odd Districts to be represented by Ministers, the even Districts by Laymen. There shall also be three members at large, consisting of two Laymen and one Minister, appointed by the Board of Bishops. The Bishop shall be President of the Epworth League and of the Board of Control. The Editor of the *Epworth Herald*, the General Secretary, the German Assistant Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary for Colored Conferences shall be advisory members of the Board of Control. In case of a vacancy in the office of General Secretary during the quadrennium, the same shall be filled by the Board of Control. The Board of Control shall meet at least four times during each quadrennium.

§ 5. ARTICLE V. *Officers.* The Officers of the League shall be a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President shall be chosen as hereinbefore provided. The Vice-President shall be chosen by the Board of Control from its own body. The General Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the executive officer of the League. He shall have charge of the correspondence, shall keep the records of the League, and perform such other duties as the Board of Control may direct. The Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall perform such duties as relate to the editorial departments of Epworth League publications. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board of Control.

These Officers shall be elected quadrennially, and shall hold office until their successors are chosen.

Vacancies in any of the above-mentioned positions, except the Presidency and the Editorship of the *Epworth Herald*, shall be filled by the Board of Control.

§ 6. ARTICLE VI. *German Assistant Secretary.* The Editor of *Haus und Herd* is constituted the German Assistant Secretary of the Epworth League.

§ 7. ARTICLE VII. *Assistant Secretary for Colored Conferences.* There shall be an Assistant Secretary of the Epworth League for work within colored Conferences, to be elected quadrennially by the Board of Control, who shall perform such duties as the Board of Control may direct.

§ 8. ARTICLE VIII. *Finances.* The salary of the Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Book Concern. The salaries of the General Secretary and Assistant

Secretary for work within colored Conferences shall be fixed by the Board of Control, and shall be paid, together with such administrative expenses as may be authorized by the Board of Control, and in such amount as the Board of Control may designate, from contributions by the Local Chapters, and the profits on Epworth League publications and supplies.

§ 9. ARTICLE IX. *Central Office.* The Central Office of the Epworth League shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

§ 10. ARTICLE X. *Local Constitution.* The Constitution for Local Chapters shall be determined by the Board of Control; provided, however, that no enactment shall be made which shall in any manner conflict with this General Constitution.

§ 11. ARTICLE XI. *By-Laws.* The Board of Control shall have power to enact such By-Laws for its own government as will not conflict with this Constitution.

§ 12. ARTICLE XII. *Amendments.* This Constitution shall be altered or amended only by the General Conference.

II. The President

¶ 475. The President of an Epworth League Chapter must be a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be elected by the Chapter and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference, of which body he shall then become a member if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be his duty to present to the Quarterly Conference a report of his Chapter, together with such other information as the Conference may require and he may be able to give.

III. District Superintendents and Pastors

¶ 476. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of Epworth League Chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may be under the control of the Quarterly and District Conferences, and to ascertain whether they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ 477. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, if practicable, Chapters of the Epworth League.

CHAPTER XII

METHODIST BROTHERHOOD

CONSTITUTION

¶ 478, § 1. ARTICLE I. *Name.* This organization shall be called the Methodist Brotherhood.

§ 2. ARTICLE II. *Purpose.* The aim of this organization is to effect the mutual improvement of its members by religious, social, literary, and physical culture; to promote the spirit and practice of Christian brotherhood; to increase fraternal interest among men; to develop their activity and stimulate their efficiency in all that relates to religious, social, civic, and industrial betterment; to build up the Church by leading men into its communion and fellowship; and, in general, to extend the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.

§ 3. ARTICLE III. *Membership.* All men's organi-

zations, of whatever name, existing in Methodist Churches, or that may hereafter exist, approved by the Quarterly Conference, are eligible to membership in the Methodist Brotherhood, and may become Chapters of the same by making application for, and receiving the Charter, and by adopting a Constitution which does not conflict with the General Constitution.

§ 4. ARTICLE IV. *Officers.* The officers shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer.

§ 5. ARTICLE V. *Managing Board.* 1. The Managing Board shall consist of three Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who shall be appointed biennially by the Board of Bishops; the General Officers of the Brotherhood; one member from each General Conference District, and seven additional members at large, who shall be elected by the General Convention, as hereinafter provided; and such other members as may be elected by affiliating Methodist bodies; all of whom shall hold office for two years, or until their successors are chosen. Vacancies in the Managing Board shall be filled by the Board.

2. Seven members shall constitute a quorum.

3. Regular meetings of the Managing Board shall be held in May and November of each year.

4. Any General Men's Organization, in any Branch of Ecumenical Methodism, which unites with the Methodist Brotherhood shall have such representation on the Managing Board as the members of said Board may approve.

§ 6. ARTICLE VI. *General Convention.* 1. The General Convention shall be held biennially, or otherwise,

at such time and place as the Managing Board shall direct.

2. Each active Chapter shall be entitled to representation in the General Convention by one accredited delegate, and by one additional accredited delegate for each fifty members in excess of the first fifty. The General Officers, the Managing Board, and the Annual Conference Presidents and Secretaries shall also be delegates to the General Convention.

§ 7. ARTICLE VII. *Elections.* The officers shall be elected at the General Convention by ballot, and shall hold office for two years, or until their successors are elected and have qualified. The officers shall perform the duties usually devolving upon their respective offices. Vacancies in office shall be filled by the Managing Board.

§ 8. ARTICLE VIII. *Conference Organization.* Delegates from local chapters are empowered to form Annual Conference and District organizations which shall elect their own officers. When there is no Conference organization, the Annual Conference shall appoint a Conference President and Secretary. In the absence of District organizations, the Conference officers shall appoint District Vice-Presidents. These officers, with the District Superintendents, shall constitute an Executive Committee, which shall encourage the formation of chapters and seek to promote Brotherhood work. In case of default the Managing Board shall appoint the Conference President, who shall select the Conference Secretary and District Vice-Presidents.

§ 9. ARTICLE IX. *Amendments.* This Constitution may be amended at any regular General Convention by a two-thirds vote; provided, that the proposed

amendment shall have been submitted previously in writing to the Managing Board, or referred to it by the Convention. The Managing Board shall report its recommendations to the Convention for final action.

CHAPTER XIII

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

¶ 479, § 1. In order to make more effectual the efforts of the Church to create public sentiment and crystallize the same into successful opposition to the organized traffic in intoxicating liquors, the General Conference hereby authorizes the organization of "The Temperance Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church," under the following Constitution:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. The object of this Society is to promote voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants and narcotics by the members of the Church, Sunday School, and Epworth League, and to secure the speedy enactment of statutory and constitutional laws prohibiting the traffic in alcoholic liquors.

§ 2. ARTICLE II. The management of the Society shall be vested in a Board of Managers, consisting of a Bishop, who shall be President, and fifteen persons at least two thirds of whom shall reside in the territory, in, or near, or convenient of access to Topeka, Kansas. These shall be nominated by the Bishops and elected by the General Conference. The Board of Managers shall meet annually, and at such

annual meetings may fill vacancies in the Board caused by death, resignation, or otherwise.

§ 3. ARTICLE III. The Officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President shall be a Bishop chosen by the Board of Bishops. The other Officers shall be elected by the Board of Managers at its first meeting, which shall be held within two months after the adjournment of the General Conference, at which meeting said Board shall have power to fill any vacancies in these offices other than that of President. The central office of the Society shall be located at Topeka, Kansas. The Board of Managers shall have the power to enact such By-Laws and to employ such representatives of its work as it may deem necessary.

§ 4. ARTICLE IV. It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to represent the Church officially in every wise movement for the promotion of voluntary personal total abstinence, and the securing of legal prohibition of the liquor traffic; to publish, approve, and distribute literature on the liquor traffic, the use of narcotics and manufactured articles containing a large percentage of alcoholic spirits; to devise such plans and make such advices as shall enable the Church most successfully to oppose and overthrow this great foe of society, the legalized liquor traffic; to make such use of the money paid into its treasury as the work demands; to publish an annual report of its work, and to make a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

§ 5. ARTICLE V. Each Annual Conference shall form within its bounds a Conference Temperance Society, which shall elect its own officers and otherwise regulate its own administration. It shall elect

a Temperance Committee in each District Superintendent's District, consisting of the District Superintendent and two others nominated by the District Superintendents and elected by the Conference. It shall be the duty of the District Committee to cooperate with other reliable temperance organizations, and to give all possible aid to No-License campaigns. At each session of the Annual Conference a Conference anniversary or mass meeting shall be held in the interest of temperance and prohibition.

§ 6. ARTICLE VI. It is recommended that Pastors, with the aid of the Committee on Temperance, present annually to each Congregation the cause of temperance, and ask a public collection and contribution for the support of the same; which collections and contributions shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the Temperance Society and reported to the Annual Conference in the same manner that other collections are reported. It shall be the duty of the Pastors to see that each Sunday School is organized into a Temperance Society, that temperance instruction be given, and that as far as possible the members of the School be pledged to total abstinence. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent at the fourth Quarterly Conference to inquire if the requirements of this Article have been observed.

CHAPTER XIV

CHARTERED FUND

¶ 480, § 1. To make further provision for distressed Effective Ministers, for the families of Effective Ministers, for Retired Ministers, and for the

widows and orphans of Ministers, there shall be a Chartered Fund, to be supported by voluntary contributions; the principal of which shall be funded under the direction of Trustees chosen by the General Conference, and the interest applied under the direction of the General Conference, according to the following regulations, namely:

§ 2. The District Superintendents and the Pastors shall be collectors and receivers of subscriptions for this Fund.

§ 3. The money shall be sent to the General Publishing Agents, who shall pay it to the Trustees of the Fund. Otherwise it shall be brought to the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. The interest shall be divided into as many equal parts as there are Annual Conferences, and each Annual Conference shall have authority to draw one of these parts out of the Fund; and if one or more Conferences shall draw out of this Fund in any given year less than one of these parts, then in such case or cases the other Annual Conferences, held in the same year, shall have authority, if they judge it necessary, to draw out of the Fund such surplus of the interest as has not been applied by the former Conferences. The Bishops shall bring the necessary information of the state of the interest of the Fund, respecting the year in question, from Conference to Conference.

§ 5. All drafts on the Chartered Fund shall be made on the Treasurer of the said Fund, by order of the Annual Conference, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of the said Conference.

§ 6. The money subscribed for the Chartered Fund may be lodged, on proper securities, in the respective

States in which it has been subscribed under the direction of deputies living in such States respectively; provided, that such securities be accepted and such deputies be appointed as shall be approved by the Trustees in Philadelphia, and the stock in which it is proposed to invest the money be sufficiently productive to give satisfaction to the Trustees.

¶ 481. The Board of Trustees shall have power to fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, subject, however, to the approval of the first General Conference that may be held after such vacancy or vacancies shall have occurred.

I. DETERMINING BOUNDARIES
II. BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE
III. BOUNDARIES OF OTHER AREAS
IV. CENTRAL MISSION COUNCIL
V. CHURCHES

PART VIII

BOUNDARIES

- I. DETERMINING BOUNDARIES
- II. BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES
- III. BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES
AND MISSIONS
- IV. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES
- V. ENABLING ACTS

CHAPTER I

DETERMINING BOUNDARIES

¶ 482. The General Conference shall appoint a Committee on Boundaries, consisting of two members, one Minister and one Layman, from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the delegations severally, over which one of the Bishops shall preside, of which one of the General Conference Secretaries shall be the Secretary, and of which Committee thirty-five shall be a quorum. All matters pertaining to Conference lines shall be referred to this Committee; and when the Committee shall have fixed the boundaries of all the Conferences, it shall submit its report to the General Conference, which shall immediately act upon the same as a whole without amendment and without debate; provided, however, that in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 93, § 6, a Central Mission Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, the General Conference first having determined the number of Annual Conferences that may be allowed in that field.

¶ 483. Any two or more Conferences which may be mutually interested in the readjustment of their common boundaries may at any time raise a Joint Commission, consisting of five members from each Conference directly interested, and the decision of such Joint Commission, in which it shall be necessary for a majority of the five members representing each of said Conferences to concur, when it shall be ap-

proved by the Bishop or Bishops who may preside at these Conferences at their sessions next ensuing, shall be final. But if the Commission so appointed shall fail to agree, or if the presiding Bishop shall not concur, then the case, with a statement of the facts, together with the records of the Commission, shall come to the General Conference for final adjudication.

¶ 484. No petition, resolution, or memorial involving change of boundaries of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the division or absorption of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the organization of new Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences out of the territory already occupied by organized Conferences, shall be entertained by the Committee on Boundaries until notice shall have been given by the Annual Conference or Conferences, the Mission Conference or Missions desiring such change, or by a majority of the District Superintendents and Mission Superintendents thereof, to all of the Annual Conferences and Mission Conferences affected thereby; provided, however, that upon a petition of a majority of the delegates representing the Annual Conference or Conferences to be affected thereby, the Committee on Boundaries may adjust the matters involved in said petition, subject to the approval of all the Annual and Mission Conferences named in such petition at their annual sessions next succeeding the General Conference.

CHAPTER II

BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. United States and Territories

¶ 485; § 1. ALABAMA CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Alabama and in that part of the State of Florida west of the Apalachicola River; and also the work among the white people within the territory of the Upper Mississippi Conference.

§ 2. ARKANSAS CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Arkansas and in that part of the State of Oklahoma east of and adjacent to the Port Arthur & Gulf Railroad, along the west line of the State of Arkansas.

§ 3. ATLANTA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Georgia not included in the Savannah Conference.

§ 4. BALTIMORE CONFERENCE shall include the District of Columbia, the Western Shore of Maryland, except that part of Garrett County lying west of the dividing ridge of the Allegheny Mountains and Grantsville and Swanton; so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies within the Hancock, Flintstone, Union Grove, and Hyndman Circuits; and that part of the State of Virginia lying between the Wilmington and West Virginia Conferences, excepting Bayard, Blaine, and Gorman.

§ 5. BLUE RIDGE-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE shall include

the work among the white people in the State of North Carolina, and in the counties of Mecklenburg, Brunswick, Greenville, Southampton, Nansemond, Norfolk, and Princess Anne in the State of Virginia; and in the counties of Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, York, Chester, Union, Anderson, Laurens, Abbeville, Newberry, and Fairfield in the State of South Carolina.

§ 6. CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of California lying west of the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and north of the northern boundary of the Southern California Conference.

§ 7. CALIFORNIA GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work within the State of California.

§ 8. CENTRAL ALABAMA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Alabama and in that part of Florida west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 9. CENTRAL GERMAN CONFERENCE shall comprise the German work within the States of Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, and Indiana except those appointments which belong at present to the Chicago German Conference; also the German work in Western Pennsylvania, and in the Southern States not included in the East German, Saint Louis German, and Southern German Conferences, exclusive of Emmanuel Church, Williams County, Ohio.

§ 10. CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall embrace that part of the State of Illinois north of the Illinois Conference and south of the following lines, namely: beginning on the Mississippi River at Albany; thence southeasterly to the northwest corner of Bureau County; thence east to the southwest corner of Lee County; thence south to the Chicago, Burling-

ton & Quincy Railway crossing of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway; thence along said railway to Bureau Junction; thence to the Illinois River; thence up said river to the mouth of the Kankakee River, leaving Albany, Leon, and Ottawa in the Rock River Conference, and Bureau Junction in the Central Illinois Conference; thence up the Kankakee River to a point directly west of the north line of Kankakee County; thence east to the Indiana line.

§ 11. CENTRAL MISSOURI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Missouri, Iowa, and that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the following line: Beginning at the city of Cairo, and running north along the Illinois Central Railroad to the city of Mendota, and including all the towns on said line of railroad; thence north to the Wisconsin State line, and thence west along said State line to the Mississippi River.

§ 12. CENTRAL NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the west by the west lines of the towns of Williamson, Marion, and Palmyra, in Wayne County, and of the towns of Farmington and Canandaigua, in Ontario County, and of Yates and Schuyler Counties, and of the towns of Hornby and Caton, in Steuben County; and in the State of Pennsylvania by the railroad running from Lawrenceville to Blossburg, including Mansfield and Blossburg Charges; on the south by Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the east by Wyoming and Northern New York Conferences; on the north by Northern New York Conference and Lake Ontario.

§ 13. CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the north line of the State of Ohio; on the east by the North-East Ohio Conference, ex-

cluding Asbury Church, in Delaware; on the south by the Springfield branch of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & Saint Louis Railroad to the west line of the Ohio Conference, yet so as to include Marysville; thence to the west line of the State of Ohio, by the north line of the Cincinnati Conference; and on the west by the west line of the State of Ohio, inclusive of Emmanuel Church, Williams County, Ohio.

§ 14. CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: On the south by the State line from the Susquehanna River to the west boundary of Bedford County, excepting so much of the State of Pennsylvania as is included in the Baltimore Conference; on the west by the west line of Bedford, Blair, and Clearfield Counties, including New Washington Circuit and excluding so much of Clearfield County as is embraced in the Erie Conference, and a line from the north of Clearfield County to Saint Marys; on the north by a line extending from Saint Marys eastward to Emporium, including Keating Summit Circuit; thence by the southern boundary of Potter and Tioga Counties, including Austin, Costello, Wharton Circuit, Cross Fork, Hammersley Fort Circuit, Hoytville, Blackwell, and Liberty Valley Circuits; thence through Sullivan County north of Laporte to the west line of Wyoming County; thence on the east by the present limits of the Wyoming Conference, being the east line of Sullivan County, to the north line of Columbia County; thence a line southeasterly through Luzerne County to the north line of the Philadelphia Conference, near White Haven; thence on the south by the northern line of Carbon, Schuylkill, and Dauphin Counties to the Susquehanna River, including Hickory Run, Weatherly, Beaver Meadows,

and Ashland; and thence by the Susquehanna River to the place of beginning, including Harrisburg.

§ 15. CENTRAL SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work within the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, the city of Racine, in the State of Wisconsin, and also the Swedish work in the State of New York west of the Genesee River, and in the State of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River.

§ 16. CENTRAL TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in all that part of the State of Tennessee west of and excluding the counties of Marion, Grundy, Van Buren, Cumberland, and Fentress.

§ 17. CHICAGO GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of Wisconsin, except those appointments along the Mississippi River, and in that part of the State of Illinois north of an east and west line passing along the north line of the city of Bloomington, excepting the territory now in the Saint Louis German Conference, and east of a north and south line passing through the city of Freeport; and in that part of the State of Indiana west of the line between the counties of Saint Joseph and Elkhart, and north of the line between Stark and Pulaski Counties. It shall also include Danville, in the State of Illinois, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

§ 18. CINCINNATI CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by a line commencing at Union City, on the Indiana State line, running thence along the Dayton & Union Railroad to Greenville, Darke County, Ohio, including the railroad stations on the line of said railroad, and Greenville also; thence along the Panhandle Railroad to Milford Center, excluding

Gettysburg, Bradford, Lockington, and Saint Paris Charges; and including the cities of Piqua and Urbana, and the Tremont City, Concord and Westville, and Kings Creek Charges; on the east by the Ohio Conference; on the south by the Ohio River; and on the west by the State of Indiana, but excluding Elizabeth, Hamilton County, Ohio, which belongs to the Indiana Conference.

§ 19. COLORADO CONFERENCE shall include the State of Colorado and Chama in New Mexico.

§ 20. COLUMBIA RIVER CONFERENCE shall include the counties of Wasco, Umatilla, Crook, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler in the State of Oregon; and all of the State of Washington east of the summit of the Cascade Mountains; and, in the State of Idaho, the counties of Shoshone, Kootenai, Latah, Nez Perce, and all of Idaho County lying north of a line running parallel with the Salmon River ten miles south of said river.

§ 21. DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of South Dakota lying east of the meridian 101 degrees west longitude.

§ 22. DELAWARE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Delaware, New Jersey, and New York; excepting the colored work in the boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan in the city of New York; all of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and all of the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania not included in the Washington Conference.

§ 23. DES MOINES CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Iowa west and south of the following lines: Beginning at the southeast corner of Wayne County; thence north to the south line of Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Con-

ference and the Monroe Charge in the Des Moines Conference; thence west to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the northeast corner of Story County; thence west to the northeast corner of Crawford County; thence south to the north line of township eighty-three; thence west to the east line of Monona County; thence south and west on the line of Monona County to the Missouri River.

§ 24. DETROIT CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Michigan in the Lower Peninsula east of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said county; thence north to the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of Charlevoix County; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw including Mackinaw City. It shall also include the Upper Peninsula.

§ 25. EAST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall embrace all the German work east of the Allegheny Mountains, including all the German work in the State of New York.

§ 26. EAST MAINE CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Maine not included in the Maine Conference.

§ 27. EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Tennessee which is not in the Tennessee Conference; in that part of the State of Virginia west of and including the counties of Carroll, Floyd, Montgomery, and Giles; and in the counties of Mercer, Wyoming, and McDowell, in the State of West Virginia.

§ 28. EASTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in the six New England States,

the States of New Jersey and Delaware, and the territory included in the New York, New York East, and Philadelphia Conferences.

§ 29. ERIE CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by Lake Erie, on the east by a line commencing at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek; thence up said creek to Gowanda, leaving said town in the Genesee Conference; thence to the Allegheny River at the mouth of the Tunungwant Creek; thence up said creek southward, excluding the city of Bradford on said creek, to the ridge dividing between the waters of Clarion and Sinnemahoning Creeks; thence southward to Mahoning Creek; thence down said Creek to the Allegheny River, excluding the Milton Society, but including Valier and the Horatio Society, in the Frostburg Circuit, the Perryville Society, in the Ringgold Circuit, the Putneyville Society, in the Putneyville Circuit, and those portions of the boroughs of Punxsutawney and Clayville lying south and east of Mahoning Creek; thence across said river in a northwesterly direction to the southwest corner of Lawrence County, including Wampum; thence along the Ohio State line to the place of beginning, excluding Orangeville Church.

§ 30. FLORIDA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Florida except that part lying west of the Apalachicola River, and that part south of parallel twenty-nine.

§ 31. GENESEE CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of New York lying west of the Central New York Conference except that part of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties which is now included in the Erie Conference. It shall also include Gowanda and Corning, in the State of New York,

and so much of Tioga County, including Tioga Charge, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not embraced in the Central New York Conference; also so much of Potter County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not included in Central Pennsylvania Conference; also including so much of McKean County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is embraced in the Olean District, including the city of Bradford.

§ 32. GEORGIA CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Georgia.

§ 33. GULF CONFERENCE shall include the white English, Italian, and French-speaking work in the State of Louisiana; also that portion of the State of Texas separated from the Oklahoma Conference by a line beginning at the city of Brownsville, Texas, running northwest along the Rio Grande River to Devil's River, a point on the Southern Pacific Railroad; thence east along the Southern Pacific Railroad to San Antonio; thence northeast along the International & Great Northern Railroad through the City of Austin to Hearne; thence north along the Houston & Texas Railroad to Ennis; thence northeast along the Texas Midland and the Frisco Railroads to the Red River, all intermediate points to be in the Gulf Conference; also the work among the white people within the territory of the Mississippi Conference.

§ 34. HOLSTON CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in that part of the State of Tennessee not included in the Central Tennessee Conference, and including that part of the State of Virginia embraced between the West Virginia and North Carolina Conferences.

§ 35. IDAHO CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Idaho not embraced in the Columbia River Confer-

ence, together with the following-named territory of the State of Oregon, namely: the counties of Baker, Malheur, Harney, Grant, Wallowa, and Union.

§ 36. ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Illinois not within the Southern Illinois Conference, south of the following line, namely: Beginning at Warsaw, on the Mississippi River; thence to Vermont; thence to the mouth of the Spoon River; thence up the Illinois River to the northwest corner of Mason County; thence to the junction of the Illinois Central and the Chicago & Alton Railroads; thence to the southwest corner of Iroquois County; thence east to the State of Indiana, leaving Bentley, Vermont, Manito, Mackinaw Circuit, and Normal in the Central Illinois Conference, and Warsaw and Bloomington in the Illinois Conference.

§ 37. INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north and east by a line beginning where the National Road intersects the west line of the State of Indiana; thence along said road to Terre Haute; thence along the Vandalia Railroad to Belmont Street, West Indianapolis, including Locust Street Charge in Greencastle; thence north to Michigan Street; thence east to the Belt Railroad; thence north and east along said railroad to a point due west of Ninth Street; thence east to the Lafayette & Indianapolis Railroad; thence north on said railroad to the Michigan Road; thence on said road to the north line of Marion County; thence east on said county line to the northeast corner of said county; thence south on the east line of said county to the National Road; thence east on said road to the State line; on the east by the State of Ohio, including Elizabeth, Hamilton County,

Ohio; on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by the State of Illinois.

§ 38. IOWA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the east by the Mississippi River; on the south by the Missouri State line; on the west and north by a line commencing at the southwest corner of Appanoose County; thence north to Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Conference and Monroe in the Des Moines Conference; thence on the south line of Marshall County due east to the Iowa River; thence down said river to Iowa City; thence on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad to Davenport, leaving Davenport and Iowa City in the Upper Iowa Conference, and all intermediate towns in the Iowa Conference.

§ 39. KANSAS CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the State of Kansas lying east of the sixth principal meridian and north of the south line of township sixteen, including the towns of Pomona and Quenemo, lying south of said line, but excluding Louisburg, Ottawa, and Baldwin, lying north of said line, and Solomon City Circuit, lying east of the sixth meridian.

§ 40. KENTUCKY CONFERENCE shall include the work among the whites in the State of Kentucky.

§ 41. LEXINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, excepting so much of the State of Illinois as is included in the Central Missouri Conference.

§ 42. LINCOLN CONFERENCE shall include all the work among the colored people in the States of Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

§ 43. LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Arkansas.

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§ 44. LOUISIANA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Louisiana.

§ 45. MAINE CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Maine west of the Kennebec River, from the town of Winslow north of Sebec River, and of a line running thence north to the State line; including Skowhegan and Augusta and that part of the town of Winslow north of Sebec River, and also that part of New Hampshire east of the White Hills and north of the waters of Ossipee Lake, and the towns of Gorham and Berlin.

§ 46. MICHIGAN CONFERENCE shall include the State of Michigan in the Lower Peninsula west of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said county; thence north to the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of said county; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw.

§ 47. MINNESOTA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Minnesota lying south of the following line: Beginning at the eastern boundary of the State at the northeast corner of Washington County; thence running west to the northwest corner of said county; thence south to the northeast corner of Ramsey County; thence following the line of Ramsey County to where it strikes the east line of Hennepin County; thence following the east and south lines of Hennepin County to the point where the Hastings & Dakota Railroad crosses the line of said county; thence following the line of the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to Ortinville; all towns on the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to be in the Northern Minnesota Conference.

§ 48. MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE shall include all of the colored work in the State of Mississippi south of a line beginning at the northeast corner of Kemper County, and running along the northern border of said county, and of the counties of Neshoba, Leake, Madison, Yazoo, Sharkey, and Issaquena to the Mississippi River. -

§ 49. MISSOURI CONFERENCE shall include so much of the State of Missouri as lies north of the Missouri River.

§ 50. MONTANA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Montana not included in the North Montana Conference; also the National Park, and that part of North Dakota which lies between the Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 51. NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Nebraska lying south of the Platte River and east of the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian.

§ 52. NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Massachusetts east of the Green Mountains not included in the New Hampshire and the New England Southern Conferences.

§ 53. NEW ENGLAND SOUTHERN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Connecticut lying east of the Connecticut River, the State of Rhode Island, with the town of Blackstone, in Massachusetts, and that part of the State of Massachusetts south of the towns of Wrentham, Walpole, Dedham, Milton, and Quincy.

§ 54. NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE shall include the State of New Hampshire, except that part within the Maine Conference; also that part of the State of Massachusetts northeast of the Merrimac River except that part of Lowell north of the Merrimac.

¶ 485 BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

§ 55. NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of New Jersey lying south of the following line, namely: Commencing at Raritan Bay; thence up said bay and river to New Brunswick; thence along the turnpike road to Lambertville on the Delaware, including the city of New Brunswick and Lambertville Station.

§ 56. NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall consist of the territory now in the New York, Poughkeepsie (including Gaylordsville), Newburgh, and Kingston Districts.

§ 57. NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE shall include Long Island; those charges in Manhattan and Bronx east of South Ferry, Whitehall Street, Broadway, Park Row, Chatham Square, Bowery, Third Avenue to Pelham Avenue; west to the Harlem Railroad track; north to Mount Vernon; thence including Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Mamaroneck, Harrison, and all between them and Long Island Sound to the State of Connecticut; thence following the State line, including Pound Ridge but excluding Gaylordsville, to Sharon Township; east to the Housatonic River; north to Canaan Township; east to Winchester, excluding North Goshen; north to State line; east to the Connecticut River, and following the river to the Sound.

§ 58. NEWARK CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of New Jersey not included in the New Jersey Conference, with the Borough of Richmond, city of New York, in the State of New York, and such portions of Rockland, Orange, and Sullivan Counties, in the State of New York, as lie south and west of a line extending from Tompkins Cove, on the Hudson River, intersecting the New Jersey State line at a

point south of Sloatsburg; thence along said State line to the Wallkill River; thence due north, intersecting the Erie Railroad at a point west of Middletown; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point where the Port Jervis & Monticello Railroad crosses the northern line of Forestburg Township, in Sullivan County; thence southwest to a point on the Delaware River below Lackawaxen, in Pennsylvania; also such portions of Pike and Monroe Counties, in the State of Pennsylvania, as lie north of the Philadelphia Conference and east of the Wyoming Conference, the same being now included in the Matamoras, Milford, Dingmans, and Coolbaugh Charges.

§ 59. NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of North Carolina and in that part of the State of Virginia lying south of a line beginning at Cape Henry and running to Hampton Roads; thence with Hampton Roads to the James River; thence with the southern bank of the James River to Chesterfield County; thence with the northern boundary of the following counties: Prince George, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Prince Edward, Charlotte, and Halifax, to the northeast corner of Pittsylvania; thence in a southwesterly direction to the northeast corner of Henry; thence with the county lines of Pittsylvania, Franklin, and Bedford to the corner of Bedford and Roanoke; thence with the Blue Ridge Mountains to the North Carolina line.

§ 60. NORTH DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include the State of North Dakota except that part which lies between the Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 61. NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the State of Michigan; on the east

by the State of Ohio, including Union City; on the south by the National Road from the State line west to Marion County; thence north to the northeast corner of said county; thence west to the Michigan Road; on the west by said Michigan Road to South Bend; and thence by the Saint Joseph River to the Michigan State line, including Logansport and all the towns on the National Road east of Indianapolis.

§ 62. NORTH MONTANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of Montana, south to Mondak; thence west along the Missouri River to the mouth of Squaw Creek; thence along said creek to the watershed of the Musselshell and Yellowstone Rivers to the North Fork of the Musselshell to Copperopolis; thence north to the north line of township ten, north, leaving White Sulphur Springs in the Montana Conference; thence west through the Montana Wesleyan University building in the Prickly Pear Valley to the Great Northern Railway; thence along said railway to the station of Mitchell, leaving said station in the North Montana Conference; thence northwest to the Continental Divide; thence along said Divide to the southeast corner of Flathead County; thence along the former boundary of Flathead County to the Idaho line; thence north to the Canadian line; thence east to the boundary between Montana and North Dakota.

§ 63. NORTH NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Nebraska lying north of the Platte River and east of the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian.

§ 64. NORTH-EAST OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the north point of the line separating Ohio from Pennsylvania;

thence south along said line to the Ohio River, including Orangeville Church; thence down said river to the Muskingum River; thence up the Muskingum River to Dresden, excluding Marietta, Zanesville, and Dresden; thence westerly to the main road passing through Delaware and Marion, including Utica, Homer, and Galena Circuits and excluding Stratford; on the west by the main road passing through Delaware and Marion to Upper Sandusky, and by the Sandusky River to its mouth; thence due north to the State line, including the towns of Tiffin, Port Clinton, and Lakeside and excluding so much of the town of Delaware as lies west of Sandusky Street, yet including Asbury Church in the city of Delaware; also excluding the towns of Marion, Fremont, and Upper Sandusky; thence east on the northern line of the State of Ohio to the place of beginning.

§ 65. NORTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Minnesota and North Dakota, and also appointments in the State of Wisconsin along the Mississippi River north of the city of La Crosse which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

§ 66. NORTHERN MINNESOTA CONFERENCE shall include all of the State of Minnesota not included in the Minnesota Conference.

§ 67. NORTHERN NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall include so much of the county of Franklin as is not within the Troy Conference, and the counties of Saint Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and Herkimer; and all of Oswego County except Phoenix, and so much of the county of Madison as lies on and east of the New York, Ontario & Western Railroad, together with Cherry Valley, Springfield, and

Richfield Springs in Otsego County, Saint Johnsville in Montgomery County, and Lassellsville, Oppenheim, and Stratford in Fulton County.

§ 68. NORTHERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in Minnesota, Northern Michigan, Wisconsin (except Racine), North Dakota, and that part of Montana lying east of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 69. NORTHWEST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of South Dakota; and in that part of the State of Iowa north of an east and west line passing along the south line of the city of Clinton; and in that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the Chicago German Conference; and all appointments in the State of Wisconsin south of and including the cities of La Crosse and Tomah which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

§ 70. NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by Lake Michigan and the State line; on the east by the Saint Joseph River and the Michigan Road; on the south by the Indiana Conference, and on the west by Illinois, including all the towns on the Michigan Road except Logansport, and all the towns on the southern boundary, excluding Locust Street Charge, in Greencastle.

§ 71. NORTHWEST IOWA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Iowa west of the Upper Iowa and north of the Des Moines Conferences.

§ 72. NORTHWEST KANSAS CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the west and north by the Kansas State line; on the east by the sixth principal meridian, but including the Solomon City Circuit; and on the south by the south line of township seventeen as far west

as to the east line of Lane County; thence north to the north line of said Lane County; thence west to the State line.

§ 73. NORTHWEST NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include all that portion of the State of Nebraska lying west of the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian, and north of the sixth standard parallel north, including such portions of Sheridan, Boxbutte, and Sioux Counties as are south of such line.

§ 74. NORWEGIAN AND DANISH CONFERENCE shall include all the work among the Norwegians and Danes between the Allegheny and Rocky Mountains.

§ 75. OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Commencing on the Muskingum River north of Dresden; thence down said river to the Ohio River, including Zanesville and Marietta; thence down the Ohio River to the mouth of Ohio Brush Creek; thence north to the southeast corner of Fayette County; thence northwest to the west line of Fayette County, not including Center Church; thence north on the west line of Fayette and Madison Counties to the Springfield Branch of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & Saint Louis Railroad, leaving Vienna, Dunbarton, and Sinking Spring Circuits west of said line; thence east on the southern boundaries of Central Ohio and North-East Ohio Conferences to the place of beginning, including Milford and Stratford, and Saint Paul's Charge, Delaware, Ohio.

§ 76. OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE shall include the State of Oklahoma, except the three counties of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron and the portion included in the Arkansas Conference; also the entire State of Texas,

except El Paso County and that portion included in the Gulf Conference.

§ 77. OREGON CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Oregon not included in the Columbia River and the Idaho Conferences.

§ 78. PACIFIC GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work of the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana.

§ 79. PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the east by the Delaware River; on the south by the Pennsylvania State line; on the west by the Susquehanna River, excluding Harrisburg, Curtin Heights and Epworth Charges; on the north by the north line of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Carbon, and Monroe Counties, excepting Ashland and Beaver Meadows Circuit.

§ 80. PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the Erie Conference; on the east by the Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the south by the West Virginia Conference; on the west by the North-East Ohio Conference.

§ 81. PUGET SOUND CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Washington lying west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains.

§ 82. ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Illinois north of Central Illinois Conference except East Dubuque. This Conference shall include the work among the Welsh people of the States of Illinois and Wisconsin.

§ 83. SAINT JOHNS RIVER CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Florida, except that portion lying west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 84. SAINT LOUIS CONFERENCE shall include that

part of the State of Missouri lying south of the Missouri River.

§ 85. SAINT LOUIS GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in that part of the State of Illinois south of the Chicago German Conference; and in the State of Iowa south of the Northwest German Conference; and all of the German work in the State of Missouri which is not within the West German Conference.

§ 86. SAVANNAH CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Georgia lying south of a line running east and west on a line of the northern boundaries of Richmond, McDuffie, Warren, Hancock, Putnam, Jasper, and Butts Counties; that part of Spalding County embracing Liberty Hill Circuit; all of Pike County except the church known as Free Liberty; that part of Meriwether County embracing Greenville; and that part of Troup County embracing La Grange Station and La Grange Circuit.

§ 87. SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of South Carolina.

§ 88. SOUTH KANSAS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Kansas lying east of the west line of Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood, and Chase Counties, and south of the line of township sixteen, including Louisburg, Ottawa, and Baldwin, lying north of that line, and excluding Pomona and Quenemo, lying south of that line.

§ 89. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE shall embrace that portion of the State of California lying south of the line beginning at the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains; following the middle fork of the Merced River until it reaches the northern

boundary of Merced County; thence north and west along said boundary, including Newman Circuit, to the northwest corner of Merced County; thence south to the northwest corner of Fresno County; thence in a direct line to the mouth of the Carmel River, on Carmel Bay; also that portion of the State east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and south of Inyo County, except Needles. It shall also include the territory of Lower California in the republic of Mexico.

§ 90. SOUTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Texas and Louisiana.

§ 91. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Illinois south of the following line, namely: Beginning at a point on the Mississippi River at the northwest corner of Calhoun County; thence east along the north line of said county to the Illinois River; thence down the Illinois River to Columbiana; thence east to the northeast corner of Jersey County, leaving Carrollton and Rockbridge in the Illinois Conference; thence in a southeasterly direction, leaving Chesterfield in the Illinois Conference and Litchfield in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence to Hillsboro, leaving Hillsboro in the Illinois Conference; thence to the northwest corner of Fayette County; thence along the north line of Fayette County and Effingham County to the west line of Cumberland County, leaving Herrick and Holliday in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence south to the southwest corner of Cumberland County; thence east along the south line of Cumberland and Clark Counties to the Wabash River.

§ 92. SOUTHWEST KANSAS CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Kansas not included in the Kansas, the Northwest Kansas, and the South Kansas Conferences, and also Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron Counties in the State of Oklahoma.

§ 93. TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that portion of the State of Tennessee west of and including the counties of Franklin, Coffee, Warren, White, Putnam, Overton, and Pickett, in said State.

§ 94. TEXAS CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in so much of the State of Texas as lies east of a line beginning at the Gulf of Mexico on the east line of Matagorda County, and running along said line and the east line of Wharton and Colorado Counties to the north point of Colorado County; thence north until it strikes the Central Railroad at Calvert; thence along the line of the railroad to the northern boundary of Texas, excluding Calvert and all the towns on the line of said road.

§ 95. TROY CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the State of New York embraced in the counties of Rensselaer, Washington, Clinton, Essex, Warren, Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery (except Saint Johnsville), Fulton (except the towns of Oppenheim and Stratford), Albany (except Coeymans, Coeymans Hollow, and South Bethlehem), Schoharie (except Blenheim, Charlottesvile, Eminence, Gilboa, Livingstonville, and Summit); in Columbia County, the towns of Stuyvesant, Kinderhook, New Lebanon, and Chatham (except Chatham Village and East Chatham); in Franklin County, the towns of Standish, Saranac Lake, and the appointments connected with Bloomingdale Circuit; in Hamilton County, the towns

of Benson, Hope, Wells, Indian Lake, Long Lake, and Blue Mountain Lake; and in Otsego County, Center Valley; also that portion of the State of Vermont embraced in the counties of Addison (except the towns of Granville and Hancock), Bennington (except the towns of Landgrove and Peru), Rutland (except Mechanicsville and Cuttingsville, Mount Holly, East Wallingford, Summit, and Healdsville); and in Chittenden County, the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburg, Huntington, Williston, Shelburne, Burlington, and Winooski; also in the State of Massachusetts all that part of Berkshire County lying upon the line of the Boston & Albany Railroad, and north of said line.

§ 96. UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows, namely: Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Iowa; thence down the Mississippi River to Davenport, including East Dubuque, in the State of Illinois; thence west on the north line of the Iowa Conference to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the State line, so as to include Iowa Falls; thence east on said line to the place of beginning.

§ 97. UPPER MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference.

§ 98. VERMONT CONFERENCE shall include the State of Vermont, except that section lying south of the Winooski River and west of the Green Mountain divide; said boundary to leave Winooski Charge in the Troy Conference, and Mechanicsville and Cuttingsville in the Vermont Conference.

§ 99. WASHINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in Western Maryland, the District of

Columbia, the State of West Virginia, except the counties of Mercer, Wyoming, and McDowell; so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies west of the Susquehanna River, including the towns on said river; and so much of the State of Virginia as is not included in the East Tennessee, Delaware, and North Carolina Conferences.

§ 100. WEST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Oklahoma, and so much of the State of Missouri as lies west of a line commencing at the southeast corner of the State of Kansas; thence direct to the southeast corner of Morgan County, Missouri; thence north to the northeast corner of Chariton County, Missouri; thence to the northeast corner of Worth County, Missouri.

§ 101. WEST NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Nebraska lying west of the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian, and south of the sixth standard parallel north, except such portions of Sheridan, Boxbutte, and Sioux Counties as are south of said line.

§ 102. WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE shall embrace the colored work in that part of the State of Texas which is not included in the Texas Conference.

§ 103. WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Pennsylvania; thence along the west line of Pennsylvania to the northeast corner of Ohio County, West Virginia, so as to include Dallas Circuit and Triadelphia Circuit; thence by the most direct way to Short Creek, so as to include Short Creek and Liberty Circuit; thence down Short Creek to the Ohio River; thence down said river to the mouth of the Big

Sandy River; on the west by the State line; on the south by the Kentucky and Holston Conferences, including the counties of Highland, Augusta, Rockbridge, Botetourt, Alleghany, and Craig in the State of Virginia; on the east, so as to include Bayard, Blaine, Gormanian, Swanton, and Grantsville Charges, to the Pennsylvania State line; thence westward along said line to the place of beginning.

§ 104. WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Wisconsin not embraced in the Wisconsin Conference.

§ 105. WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH CONFERENCE shall include the Norwegian and Danish work in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and California.

§ 106. WESTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in the States of Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota.

§ 107. WILMINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the State of Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and all that part of the State of Virginia east of the Baltimore Conference.

§ 108. WISCONSIN CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Wisconsin lying east and north of a line beginning at the southeast corner of Green County, on the south line of the State; thence north on the range line between ranges nine and ten east, to the north line of town twenty; thence west on the said line to the east line of range three; thence north on said line to the Michigan State line, excluding Avon Church, McFarland, Goodman Church, Brooklyn, and the town of Pine Grove in Portage County.

§ 109. WYOMING CONFERENCE shall include that por-

tion of the southern part of the State of New York which is not included in the New York, New York East, Newark, Central New York, and Genesee Conferences; and that part of the State of Pennsylvania which is bounded on the west by Central New York Conference, including the territory east of the Susquehanna River, and on the south by the Central Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Newark Conferences, including Narrowsburg, and on the east by the Newark and New York Conferences.

II. Foreign Countries

¶ 486, § 1. BENGAL CONFERENCE shall include Bengal, Assam, Chota, Nagpur, Orissa, and so much of Bihar as lies east and south of the Bhagalpur Civil District.

§ 2. BOMBAY CONFERENCE shall include all of the Bombay Presidency north of the Belgaum District, and such parts of Central India as lie south of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude and west of the Central Provinces Mission Conference.

§ 3. CENTRAL CHINA CONFERENCE shall include Central China, with its central station at the city of Nanking, on the Yang-tse River.

§ 4. CHILE CONFERENCE shall include the Republics of Chile and Bolivia.

§ 5. DENMARK CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Denmark.

§ 6. EASTERN SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE shall include the Republics of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil.

§ 7. FINLAND CONFERENCE shall include Finland.

¶ 486 BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

§ 8. FOOCHOW CONFERENCE shall include the Fokien Province in China, excepting so much as is included within the Hinghwa Conference.

§ 9. HINGHWA CONFERENCE shall include the Hinghwa Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Hinghwa dialect is spoken; and the Ingchung Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Amoy dialect is spoken.

§ 10. ITALY CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Italy, and those parts of contiguous countries in which the Italian language is spoken.

§ 11. KOREA CONFERENCE shall include Korea.

§ 12. LIBERIA CONFERENCE shall include the western coast of Africa north of the Equator.

§ 13. MALAYSIA CONFERENCE shall include the Straits Settlements, the Malay Peninsula, French Indo-China, Borneo, Celebes, Java, Sumatra, and the adjacent Islands (not including the Philippines) inhabited by the Malay race.

§ 14. MEXICO CONFERENCE shall include the Republic of Mexico, except the States of Chihuahua and Sonora and the Territory of Lower California; it shall also include Central America.

§ 15. NORTH CHINA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the Chinese Republic including and north of the Provinces of Shantung and Honan.

§ 16. NORTH GERMANY CONFERENCE shall include all that part of Germany north of a line running from the northwest to the southeast, between the Provinces of the Rhine and Westphalia, and from the southern point of Westphalia to the northern point of Bavaria; thence by the north and northeast boundary of Bavaria, between Bavaria on the one side and the Turingen States and the Kingdom of Saxony on the

other, so as to include the present districts of Berlin, Bremen, and Leipzig and the circuit of Cassel.

§ 17. NORTH INDIA CONFERENCE shall include the United Provinces of Agra and Oude east of the Ganges River and so much of Bihar as is not included in the Bengal Conference.

§ 18. NORTHWEST INDIA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the United Provinces of Agra and Oude which lies south and west of the Ganges; the Punjab, and such parts of Rajputana and Central India as lie north of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude.

§ 19. NORWAY CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Norway.

§ 20. PHILIPPINE ISLANDS CONFERENCE shall include the Philippine Archipelago and the Sulu Islands.

§ 21. SOUTH GERMANY CONFERENCE shall include all of the Empire of Germany not included in the North Germany Conference.

§ 22. SOUTH INDIA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of India lying south of the Bombay and Bengal Conferences and the Central Provinces Mission Conference.

§ 23. SWEDEN CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Sweden.

§ 24. SWITZERLAND CONFERENCE shall include the Republic of Switzerland.

CHAPTER III

BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS

I. United States and Territories

§ 487, § 1. ALASKA MISSION shall include the Territory of Alaska.

§ 2. ARIZONA MISSION shall include the State of Arizona, Needles in the State of California, and the State of Sonora in the Republic of Mexico.

§ 3. BLACK HILLS MISSION shall include Crook County, Wyoming, and all that part of the State of South Dakota west of the meridian 101 degrees west longitude.

§ 4. CHINESE MISSION shall include all the Chinese work on the Pacific Coast, except in Oregon and Washington.

§ 5. HAWAII MISSION shall include the Hawaiian Islands.

§ 6. ITALIAN MISSION shall include all the Italian work in the territory included between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mississippi River, except that included in the Gulf Conference.

§ 7. NEVADA MISSION shall include the State of Nevada, and as much of the State of California as lies east of the west summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

§ 8. NEW MEXICO ENGLISH MISSION shall include the State of New Mexico excepting Chama; also the

county of El Paso in the State of Texas, and the State of Chihuahua in the Republic of Mexico.

§ 9. NEW MEXICO-SPANISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include the work among the Spanish-speaking peoples in the States of New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado; El Paso, Texas, and the States of Chihuahua and Sonora in the Republic of Mexico.

§ 10. PACIFIC-CHINESE MISSION shall include all the Chinese work between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean, excepting that this action shall only become operative as regards the Chinese work in Portland, Oregon, upon the concurrence of the Bishops resident in Portland and San Francisco.

§ 11. PACIFIC-JAPANESE MISSION shall include all the Japanese work west of the Mississippi River.

§ 12. PACIFIC SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include the Swedish work in the States of California, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Arizona, and that part of Montana west of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 13. PORTO RICO MISSION shall include Porto Rico and the adjacent islands belonging to its civil jurisdiction, together with any work which may be established by our Church or come under its care in any of the islands known as the West Indies.

§ 14. SOUTH FLORIDA MISSION shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Florida lying south of parallel twenty-nine, including New Smyrna, Daytona, Ormond, and De Land.

§ 15. SOUTHERN SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in Texas.

§ 16. UTAH MISSION shall include the State of Utah.

§ 17. WYOMING MISSION shall include the State of

Wyoming, except the National Park and Crook County.

II. Foreign Countries

¶ 488. SOUTH AMERICA. *North Andes Mission Conference* shall include all of South America not included in the Eastern South America and the Chile Conferences.

¶ 489, § 1. EUROPE. *Austria-Hungary Mission Conference* shall include the Empire of Austria-Hungary.

§ 2. *Bulgaria Mission Conference* shall include the Principality of Bulgaria north of the Balkan Mountains, and other contiguous countries of the Balkan Peninsula lying north and west of said section.

§ 3. *France Mission Conference* shall include the Republic of France.

§ 4. *Russia Mission* shall include the Empire of Russia.

¶ 490, § 1. ASIA. *Burma Mission Conference* shall include Burma.

§ 2. *Central Provinces Mission Conference* shall include all the Central Provinces, and the Feudatory States under the supervision of the Central Provinces Government, Berar, and such portion of Central India not embraced in the Bombay Conference as lies north of the Central Provinces and south of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude; that portion of the Nizam's Dominions lying north of the Godavery Valley Railway, from Jālna in the Aurungabad District, to the point where that railway crosses the Godavery River; such country as lies north of the Godavery River from this point eastward to a point

twenty-five miles west of Sironcha. The boundary line shall be thence southeastward along the Godavary River.

§ 3. *West China Mission Conference* shall include the work in the western part of the Chinese Republic and in Tibet.

¶ 491, § 1. AFRICA. *East Central Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in East Africa, south of the Equator.

§ 2. *North Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in North Africa.

§ 3. *West Central Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in West Africa, south of the Equator, and the Madeira Islands.

CHAPTER IV

CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 492, § 1. EUROPEAN CENTRAL CONFERENCE

1. Austria-Hungary Mission Conference.
2. Bulgaria Mission Conference.
3. Denmark Annual Conference.
4. Finland Annual Conference.
5. France Mission Conference.
6. Italy Annual Conference.
7. North Germany Annual Conference.
8. Norway Annual Conference.
9. Russia Mission.
10. South Germany Annual Conference.
11. Sweden Annual Conference.
12. Switzerland Annual Conference.

§ 2. EASTERN ASIA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

1. Central China Annual Conference.
2. East Japan Mission Council.
3. Foochow Annual Conference.
4. Hingwa Annual Conference.
5. Korea Annual Conference.
6. North China Annual Conference.
7. West Japan Mission Council.

§ 3. SOUTHERN ASIA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

1. Bengal Annual Conference.
2. Bombay Annual Conference.
3. Burma Mission Conference.
4. Central Provinces Mission Conference.
5. Malaysia Annual Conference.
6. North India Annual Conference.
7. Northwest India Annual Conference.
8. Philippine Islands Annual Conference.
9. South India Annual Conference.

CHAPTER V

ENABLING ACTS

¶ 493. The following Enabling Acts are in force; provided, that the number of Members in any adjoining Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission shall not be diminished to less than twenty-five.

I. In the United States

TO UNITE CONFERENCES OR MISSIONS

¶ 494, § 1. The Cincinnati and the Central Ohio Conferences, during the next quadrennium, by a ma-

majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Annual Conference to include the territory of both Conferences under such name as may be adopted.

§ 2. The *Dakota Conference* and the *Black Hills Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the Members of said Conference and Mission present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Annual Conference.

§ 3. In the event of the rejection of this Enabling Act, the line between the *Black Hills Mission* and the Conference shall be fixed as follows: Beginning at the Missouri River, at the north line of the State of South Dakota, following the river to the north line of Lyman County, thence west to the northwest corner of Lyman County, thence south to the north line of Mellette County, thence west to the northwest corner of Mellette County, thence south to the State line; subject to the ratification of a two-thirds vote of the members of said Mission and Conference present and voting.

§ 4. The *Kansas* and the *South Kansas Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference under such name as may be adopted.

§ 5. The *Missouri* and the *Saint Louis Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference, to be called the *Missouri Conference*, covering the entire State of Missouri.

§ 6. The Annual Conferences in the State of Nebraska, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may lift the present boundaries so as to form one Conference, to be known as the Nebraska Conference, to include the entire State of Nebraska.

§ 7. If the above proposition should fail, the present boundary between the *West Nebraska* and the *Northwest Nebraska Conferences* may be changed by a majority vote of each Conference so that the Northwest Nebraska Conference shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at a point where the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian meets the boundary line between Nebraska and South Dakota; thence south to the northeast corner of Garfield County; thence west to the northeast corner of Blaine County; thence south to the northeast corner of Logan County; thence west to the southwest corner of Grant County; thence south to the southeast corner of Garden County; thence on the county line to the southeast corner of Morrill County; thence west on the south line of Banner County to the Wyoming line; thence north to the South Dakota line; thence east to the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian.

§ 8. Should the above proposition (§ 6) fail, the *Nebraska*, the *North Nebraska*, and the *West Nebraska Conferences*, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may form one Conference, which shall be called the Nebraska Conference and shall be bounded as follows: The Nebraska Conference

shall include all that part of the State of Nebraska not included in the Northwest Nebraska Conference.

§ 9. Should the foregoing propositions in §§ 6, 7, and 8 fail, the *Nebraska* and the *North Nebraska Conferences*, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference, to be called the East Nebraska Conference, to be bounded as follows: The East Nebraska Conference shall include all that part of the State of Nebraska lying east of the west line of range twelve, west of the sixth principal meridian.

TO ORGANIZE CONFERENCES OR MISSIONS

¶ 495, § 1. The Bohemian-Slavonic work, during this quadrennium, by and with the approval of the Board of Bishops, may be organized into a Mission, embracing the Bohemian-Slavonic work between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mississippi River.

§ 2. *New Mexico Spanish Mission Conference* and the *New Mexico English Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each body and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form an Annual Conference under such name as may be adopted.

§ 3. *Oklahoma Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize a Mission in the Panhandle of Texas, with such boundary and name as may be adopted.

§ 4. *Porto Rico Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into a Mission Conference.

§ 5. *South Florida Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into an Annual Conference.

§ 6. *Wyoming Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the Mission and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference, under such name as may be adopted.

TO DIVIDE CONFERENCES AND REARRANGE BOUNDARIES

¶ 496, § 1. Annual Conferences of the State of Ohio are authorized and requested to appoint Commissions which may so adjust boundaries as to constitute four Annual Conferences in the State of Ohio, such action to be approved by each of the Conferences and by the Bishop or Bishops presiding at said Conferences.

§ 2. *Louisiana Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide into two Conferences, with such boundaries and names as may be adopted.

§ 3. *North Dakota Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide its territory into two Conferences, on such lines and under such names as may be adopted.

§ 4. *South Carolina Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide into two Conferences, with such names and boundaries as may be adopted.

§ 5. Norwegian and Danish work in the city of Buffalo, New York, during the coming quadrennium, by a majority vote of the Genesee and the Norwegian and Danish Conferences, at their sessions immediately succeeding the General Conference of 1912 and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may be transferred to the Genesee Conference.

II. In Foreign Countries

¶ 497, § 1. *Central China Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of those present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide into two Annual Conferences, or into an Annual Conference and a Mission Conference.

§ 2. *Central Conference of Southern Asia*, during the next quadrennium, may organize the English-speaking work of India into a Mission, under the advice and with the consent of the Missionary Bishop of Southern Asia, with such boundaries and name as may be adopted.

§ 3. *Central Provinces Mission Conference* of India, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into an Annual Conference.

§ 4. *East Central Africa Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide into two Mission Conferences, with such boundaries and names as may be adopted.

§ 5. (1) *Malaysia Annual Conference*, during the coming quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize that portion of the Conference now included in the Netherlands Indies District into a Mission Conference, to be known as the Netherlands Indies Mission Conference.

(2) Such Netherlands Indies Mission Conference, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 6. *North Africa Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 7. *Russia Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into a Mission Conference under such name as may be adopted.

§ 8. *Sweden Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be divided into two Annual Conferences, with such boundaries and names as may be adopted.

§ 9. *West China Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference, with such name and boundaries as may be adopted.

I. BAPTISM

II. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

III. THE LORD'S SUPPER

PART IX

IV. MATRIMONY

RITUAL

V. FUNERAL SERVICE

VI. CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION
VII. CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

- I. BAPTISM
- II. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS
- III. THE LORD'S SUPPER
- IV. MATRIMONY
- V. BURIAL OF THE DEAD
- VI. CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION
- VII. CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

CHAPTER I

BAPTISM

[Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice of either sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.]

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for administering Baptism.]

¶ 498. Order for the Administration of Baptism to Infants

The Minister, coming to the Font, which is to be filled with pure Water, shall use the following:

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin, and that our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of his bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of his Son, he will grant that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, be received into Christ's holy Church, and become a *lively Member* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who of thy great mercy hast condescended to enter into covenant rela-

tions with man, wherein thou hast included children as partakers of its gracious benefits, declaring that of such is thy kingdom; and in thy ancient Church didst appoint divers baptisms, figuring thereby the renewing of the Holy Ghost; and by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to thy holy Apostles to go into all the world and disciple all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: we beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy thou wilt look upon *this child*: wash *him* and sanctify *him*; that *he*, being saved by thy grace, may be received into Christ's holy Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so overcome the evils of this present world that finally *he* may attain to everlasting life, and reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Merciful God, grant that all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that whosoever is dedicated to thee by our office and ministry may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, Everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood, regard, we beseech thee, our supplications. Sanctify this water for this Holy Sacra-

ment; and grant that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister address the Parents or Guardians as followeth:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as *this child* is now presented by you for Christian Baptism, you must remember that it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this Holy Sacrament. And that *he* may know these things the better, you shall call upon *him* to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace, such as the ministry of the word, and the public and private worship of God; and further, you shall provide that *he* shall read the Holy Scriptures, and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Catechism, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health, in order that *he* may be brought up to lead a virtuous and holy life, remembering always that Baptism doth represent unto us that inward purity which disposeth us to follow the example of our Saviour Christ; that as *he* died and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die unto sin and rise again unto righteousness, continually mortifying all corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness.

Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties, so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Ans. We do.

Then shall the People stand up, and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by Saint Mark.
[Chap. 10. 13-16.]

They brought young children to Christ, that he should touch them. And his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them; and blessed them.

Then the Minister shall take the Child into his hands, and say to the friends of the Child:

Name this child.

And then, naming it after them, he shall sprinkle or pour Water upon it, or, if desired, immerse it in Water, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall the Minister offer the following Prayer, the People kneeling:

O God of infinite mercy, the Father of all the faithful seed, be pleased to grant unto *this child* an understanding mind and a sanctified heart. May thy providence lead *him* through the dangers, temptations, and ignorance of *his* youth, that *he* may never

run into folly, nor into the evils of an unbridled appetite. We pray thee so to order the course of *his* life that, by good education, by holy examples, and by thy restraining and renewing grace, *he* may be led to serve thee faithfully all *his* days; so that, when *he* has glorified thee in *his* generation, and has served the Church on earth, *he* may be received into thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, let thy loving mercy and compassion descend upon *these*, thy *servant* and *handmaid*, the parents [or guardians] of *this child*. Grant unto *them*, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may, like Abraham, command *their* household to keep the way of the Lord. Direct *their* actions, and sanctify *their hearts*, words, and purposes, that *their* whole family may be united to our Lord Jesus Christ in the bands of faith, obedience, and charity; and that they all, being in this life thy holy children by adoption and grace, may be admitted into the Church of the firstborn in heaven, through the merits of thy dear Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

Then shall be said, all kneeling:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

¶ 499. Order for the Administration of Baptism to such
as are of Riper Years.

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin; and that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and they that are in the flesh cannot please God, but live in sin, committing many actual transgressions; and our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, and, being received into Christ's holy Church, may continue lively *Members* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead: we call upon thee for *these persons*, that *they*, coming to thy Holy Baptism, may also be filled with thy Holy Spirit. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: so give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock; that *these persons* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised, by Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the People stand up, and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by Saint John.

[Chap. 3. 1-8.]

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit.

Then the Minister shall speak to the Persons to be baptized on this wise:

Well Beloved, who *have* come hither desiring to receive Holy Baptism, you have heard how the Congregation hath prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you, to bless you, and to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. And our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his holy word to grant all those things that we have prayed

for: which promise he for his part will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, you must also faithfully, for your part, promise in the presence of this whole Congregation, that you will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's Holy Word, and obediently keep his commandments.

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the Persons to be baptized:

Quest. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Ans. I renounce them all.

Quest. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son our Lord; and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; that he rose again the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic¹ Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and everlasting life after death?

Ans. All this I steadfastly believe.

¹ The one universal Church of Christ.

Quest. Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. Such is my desire.

Quest. Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister say:

O Merciful God, grant that all carnal affections may die in *these persons*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. *Amen.*

Grant that *they* may have power and strength to have victory, and triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that *they*, being here dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, Everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; regard, we beseech thee, our supplications; and grant that the *persons* now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister ask the name of each Person to be baptized, and shall sprinkle or pour Water upon him (or, if he shall desire it, shall immerse him in Water), saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Then may the Minister conclude with extemporary Prayer.

CHAPTER II

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

¶ 500. Form I

Those who are to be received into the Church as probationers shall be called forward by name, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN, that none may be admitted hastily into the Church, we receive persons who seek fellowship with us on profession of faith into

a preparatory membership; in which proof may be made, both to themselves and to the Church, of the sincerity and depth of their convictions and of the strength of their purpose to lead a new life.

The persons here present desire to be so admitted. You will hear their answers to the questions put to them, and if you make no objection they will be received.

It is needful, however, that you be reminded of your own responsibility, as having previously entered this holy fellowship and now representing the Church into which they seek admission. Remembering their inexperience, and how much they must learn in order to become good soldiers of Jesus Christ, see to it that they find in you holy examples of life and loving help in the true serving of their Lord and ours. I beseech you so to order your own lives that these new disciples may take no detriment from you, but that it may ever be to them a cause for thanksgiving to God that they were led into this fellowship.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you have, by the grace of God, made your decision to follow Christ and to serve him. Your confidence in so doing is not to be based on any notion of fitness or worthiness in yourselves, but solely on the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, and on his death and intercession for us.

That the Church may know your purpose, you will answer the questions I am now to ask you.

Have you an earnest desire to be saved from your sins?

Ans. I have.

Will you guard yourselves against all things contrary to the teaching of God's word, and endeavor to lead a holy life, following the commandments of God?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do.

Are you purposed to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace in the ministry of the Word, and the private and public worship of God?

Ans. I am so determined, with the help of God.

No objection being offered, the Minister shall announce that the Candidates are admitted, and shall assign them to classes.

Then shall the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

¶ 501. Form II

On the day appointed, all that are to be received into the Church shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN, the Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the head; and that it is the design of the Gospel to bring together in one all who are in Christ. The fellowship of the Church is the communion that its Members enjoy one with another. The ends of this fellowship are the maintenance of sound doctrine and of the ordinances of Christian worship, and the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to his Church for the promotion of holiness.

It is the duty of all men to unite in this fellowship; for only those who are "planted in the house of the

Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God." Its more particular duties are, to promote peace and unity; to bear one another's burdens; to prevent each other's stumbling; to seek the intimacy of friendly society among themselves; to continue steadfast in the faith and worship of the Gospel; and to pray and sympathize with each other. Among its privileges are peculiar incitements to holiness from the hearing of God's Word and the sharing in Christ's ordinances; the being placed under the watchful care of Pastors; and the enjoyment of the blessings which are promised only to those who are of the Household of Faith.

Into this holy fellowship the *persons* before you, who *have* already received the Sacrament of Baptism, and have been properly recommended, *come* seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question *them* as to *their* faith and purposes, that you may know that *they* are proper *persons* to be admitted into the Church.

Then, addressing the Applicants for Admission, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you are come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that he has called you to be his *followers*. You have heard how blessed are the privileges, and how solemn are the duties, of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renew the solemn promise contained in the Baptismal Covenant, ratifying and confirming the same, and acknowledging *yourselves* bound faithfully to observe and keep that Covenant?

Ans. I do.

Have you saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?

Ans. I trust I have.

Do you believe in the Doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

Ans. I do.

Will you cheerfully be governed by the Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, hold sacred the Ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Ans. I will.

Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Ans. I will.

Then the Minister, addressing the Church, shall say:

Brethren, *these persons* having given satisfactory responses to our inquiries, have any of you reason to allege why *they* should not be received into membership in the Church?

No objections being alleged, the Minister shall say, to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection

and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

Then shall the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

CHAPTER III

THE LORD'S SUPPER

[Whenever practicable, let none but the pure, unfermented juice of the grape be used in administering the Lord's Supper.]

[Let persons who have scruples concerning the receiving of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper kneeling be permitted to receive it either standing or sitting.]

[No person shall be admitted to the Lord's Supper among us who is guilty of any practice for which we would exclude a Member of our Church.]

¶ 502. Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper

The Elder shall say one or more of these Sentences, during the reading of which the Persons appointed for that purpose shall receive the Alms for the Poor:

LET your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. [Matt. 5. 16.]

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. [Matt. 6. 19, 20.]

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matt. 7. 12.]

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [Matt. 7. 21.]

Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. [Luke 19. 8.]

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. [2 Cor. 9. 6, 7.]

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. [Gal. 6. 10.]

Godliness with contentment is great gain; for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. [1 Tim. 6. 6, 7.]

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. [1 Tim. 6. 17-19.]

God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. [Heb. 6. 10.]

To do good and to communicate forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. [Heb. 13. 16.]

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? [1 John 3. 17.]

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. [Prov. 19. 17.]

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. [Psa. 41. 1.]

Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor. [Deut. 15. 11.]

After which the Elder shall give the following Invitation, the People standing:

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Wherefore ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and

take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort; and, devoutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Then shall this general Confession be made by the Minister in the name of all those who are minded to receive the Holy Communion, both he and all the People devoutly kneeling, and saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Elder say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee, have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Elder say:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may live and grow thereby; and that, being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Then the Elder shall offer the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until his coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and

grant that we, receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread ⁽¹⁾; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my

⁽¹⁾ Here the Elder may take the plate of bread in his hand.

body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took ⁽²⁾ the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

⁽²⁾ Here he may take the cup in his hand.

Amen.

Then shall the Minister receive the Communion in both kinds, and proceed to deliver the same to the other Ministers, if any be present; after which he shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! **Amen.**

The Minister shall then proceed to administer the Communion to the People in order, kneeling, into their uncovered hands; and when he delivereth the Bread, he shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee; and feed on him in thy heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the Cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

[If the Consecrated bread or wine shall be all spent before all have communed, the Elder may Consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.]

[When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's table and place upon it what remaineth of the Consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.]

Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer; the People kneeling, and repeating after him every petition:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

After which shall be said as followeth:

O Lord our heavenly Father, we thy humble servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;

most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this Holy Communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

Then shall be said or sung:

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men! We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty!

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Then the Elder, if he see it expedient, may put up an extemporary Prayer; and afterward shall let the People depart with this Blessing:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

N. B.—If the Elder is straitened for time in the usual administration of the Holy Communion, he may omit any part of the service except the Invitation, the Confession, and the Prayer of Consecration; and in its administration to the Sick he may omit any part of the service except the Confession, the Prayer of Consecration, and the usual sentences in delivering the Bread and Wine, closing with the Lord's Prayer, *extempore* supplication, and the Benediction.

CHAPTER IV

MATRIMONY

¶ 503. Form for the Solemnization of Matrimony

[The parts in brackets throughout may be used or not at discretion.]

At the day and time appointed for the Solemnization of Matrimony, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signify-

ing unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought, in Cana of Galilee, and is commended by Saint Paul to be honorable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

[And also speaking unto the persons that are to be married, the Minister shall say:

I require and charge you both, that if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in Matrimony, you do now confess it: for be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's Word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their Matrimony lawful.]

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the Man:

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The Man shall answer:

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman:

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou love, honor, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The Woman shall answer:

I will.

[Then the Minister shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and to say after him as followeth:

I, M., take thee, N., to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister:

I, N., take thee, M., to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.]

Then shall the Minister pray thus:

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life: send thy blessing upon these thy serv-

ants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that as Isaac and Rebecca lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[If the parties desire it, the Man shall here hand a Ring to the Minister, who shall return it to him, and direct him to place it on the third finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man shall say to the Woman, repeating after the Minister:

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.]

Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say:

Forasmuch as *M.* and *N.* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. *Amen.*

And the Minister shall add this Blessing:

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace that ye may so live

together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister offer the following Prayer:

O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, bless this man and this woman, and sow the seed of eternal life in their hearts, that whatsoever in thy holy word they shall profitably learn, they may indeed fulfill the same. Look, O Lord, mercifully on them from heaven, and bless them: as thou didst send thy blessings upon Abraham and Sarah to their great comfort, so vouchsafe to send thy blessings upon this man and this woman, that they, obeying thy will, and always being in safety under thy protection, may abide in thy love unto their lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who at the beginning didst create our first parents, Adam and Eve, and didst sanctify and join them together in marriage, pour upon these persons the riches of thy grace, sanctify and bless them, that they may please thee both in body and soul, and live together in holy love unto their lives' end. *Amen.*

Here the Minister may use extemporary Prayer.

Then the Minister shall repeat the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

CHAPTER V

BURIAL OF THE DEAD

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for burying the dead.]

¶ 504. Form for Burial of the Dead

The Minister, going before the Corpse, shall say:

I AM the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. [John 11. 25, 26.]

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. [Job 19. 25-27.]

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. [1 Tim. 6. 7; Job 1. 21.]

In the House or Church may be read one or both of the following Psalms, or some other suitable portion of the Holy Scriptures:

Psalm 39:

I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle,

while the wicked is before me. I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. My heart was hot within me; while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue, Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as a handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Surely every man walketh in a vain show: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee. Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish. I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it. Remove thy stroke away from me; I am consumed by the blow of thine hand. When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man is vanity. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

Psalm 90:

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a

watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled. Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants. O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Then may follow the reading of the Epistle, as follows:

1 Corinthians 15. 41-58:

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it

is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

*At the grave, when the Corpse is laid in the Earth,
the Minister shall say:*

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower: he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy; O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee.

*Then, while the Earth shall be cast upon the Body by
some standing by, the Minister shall say:*

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of the world the soul of the departed, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed and made like unto his own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Even so, saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors.

Then shall the Minister say:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister may offer this Prayer:

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect

O, Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally: we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest

in him; and at the general resurrection on the last day may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O Merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

CHAPTER VI CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION

¶ 505. Form of Consecrating Bishops

[This service is not to be understood as an ordination to a higher Order in the Christian Ministry, beyond and above that of Elders or Presbyters, but as a solemn and fitting Consecration for the special and most sacred duties of Superintendency in the Church.]

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy holy Apostles, Elders, and Evangelists many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock: give grace, we beseech thee, to all the Ministers and Pastors of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy Word and duly administer the godly discipline thereof; and grant to the People that they may obediently follow the same, that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall be read by one of the Elders:

The Epistle. Acts 20. 17-35

From Miletus Paul sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the Church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came to Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all

humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. I have coveted

no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Then another shall read:

The Gospel. Saint John 21. 15-17

Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Or this: Saint Matthew 28. 18-20

Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

After the Gospel and the Sermon are ended, the Elected Person shall be presented by two Elders unto the Bishop, saying:

We present unto you this holy man to be consecrated a Bishop.

Then the Bishop shall move the Congregation present to pray, saying thus to them:

Brethren, it is written in the Gospel of Saint Luke that our Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer before he did choose and send forth his twelve Apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles that the disciples who were at Antioch did fast and pray before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth on their first mission to the Gentiles. Let us therefore, following the example of our Saviour Christ, and his Apostles, first fall to prayer before we admit and send forth this person presented to us to the work whereunto we trust the Holy Ghost hath called him.

Then shall the following Prayer be offered:

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers Offices in thy Church: mercifully behold this thy servant now called to the Work and Ministry of a Bishop, and replenish him so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn him with innocency of life, that both by word and deed he may faithfully serve thee in this Office, to the glory of thy name, and the edifying and well governing of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall say to him that is to be Consecrated:

Brother, forasmuch as the Holy Scriptures command that we should not be hasty in laying on hands and admitting any person to government in the Church of Christ, which he hath purchased with no less price than the shedding of his own blood; before you are admitted to this administration, you will, in the fear of God, give answer to the questions which I now propound:

Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this Ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Ans. I am so persuaded.

The Bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the same Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same?

Ans. I am so persuaded and determined, by God's grace.

The Bishop. Will you then faithfully exercise yourself in the same Holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of the same, so that you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesome doctrine, and to withstand and convince the gainsayers?

Ans. I will do so, by the help of God.

The Bishop. Are you ready with faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange

doctrines contrary to God's word, and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to the same?

Ans. I am ready, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you deny all ungodliness and worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, that you may show yourself in all things an example of good works unto others, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against you?

Ans. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as shall lie in you, quietness, love, and peace among all men; and such as shall be unquiet, disobedient, and criminal, correct and punish according to such authority as you have by God's word, and as shall be committed unto you?

Ans. I will do so, by the help of God.

The Bishop. Will you be faithful in Ordaining, or laying hands upon and sending others, and in all the other duties of your office?

Ans. I will so be, by the help of God.

The Bishop. Will you show yourself gentle, and be merciful, for Christ's sake, to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help?

Ans. I will so show myself, by God's help.

Then the Bishop shall say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same, that he accomplishing in you the good work which he hath begun, you may be found blameless at the last day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall Veni, Creator Spiritus, be said:

*Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.*

*Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.*

*Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.*

Enable with perpetual light

The dullness of our blinded sight;

Anoint and cheer our soiled face

With the abundance of thy grace;

Keep far our foes, give peace at home;

Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,

And Thee of both to be but ONE;

That through the ages all along

This may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That ended, the Bishop shall say:

Lord, hear our Prayer.

Ans. And let our cry come unto thee.

The Bishop shall then say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only and dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some Apostles, some

Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastors and Teachers, to the edifying and making perfect of his Church: grant, we beseech thee, to this thy servant, such grace that he may evermore be ready to spread abroad thy Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with thee, and use the authority given him, not to destruction, but to salvation; not to hurt, but to help; so that as a wise and faithful servant, giving to the family their portion in due season, he may at last be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop and Elders present shall lay their hands upon the head of the Elected Person, kneeling before them, the Bishop saying:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of a Bishop in the Church of God now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.* And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is in thee; for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind.

Then shall the Bishop deliver to him the Bible, saying:

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this book. Be diligent in them, that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and to thy doctrine; for by so doing thou shalt

both save thyself and them that hear thee. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcast, seek the lost; be so merciful that you may not be too remiss; so minister discipline that you forget not mercy; that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you may receive the never-fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[Then the Bishop shall administer the Lord's Supper to the newly Consecrated Bishop and other persons present.]

Then shall be offered the following Prayers:

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down upon this thy servant thy heavenly blessing, and to so endue him with thy Holy Spirit that he, preaching thy word, and exercising authority in thy Church, may not only be earnest to reprove, beseech, and rebuke with all patience and doctrine, but also may be, to such as believe, a wholesome example in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, and in purity; that faithfully fulfilling his course, at the last day he may receive the crown of righteousness laid up by the Lord, the righteous Judge, who liveth and reigneth, one God with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ 506. Form of Ordaining Elders

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, there shall be a Sermon or Exhortation, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted Elders; how necessary that Order is in the Church of Christ, and also how the People ought to esteem the Elders in their Office.]

After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be Ordained, and say:

I present unto you these persons to be ordained as Elders.

Then, their names being read aloud, the Bishop shall say to the People:

Brethren, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain Elders. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy Ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be objected, the Bishop shall surcease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

*Then shall be said the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel,
as followeth:*

The Collect

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church: mercifully behold these thy servants now called to the Office of Elders, and replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office, to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

The Epistle. Ephesians 4. 7-13

Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things. And he gave some, Apostles; and some, Prophets; and some, Evangelists; and some, Pastors and Teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

After this shall be read for the Gospel part of the tenth chapter of Saint John:

Saint John 10. 1-16

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them; but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know

I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep: And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

And that done, the Bishop shall say unto the Persons to be Ordained Elders:

You have heard, brethren, in your private examination, and in the holy lessons taken out of the Gospel and the writings of the Apostles, of what dignity and of how great importance this Office is whereunto ye are called. And now again we exhort you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye have in remembrance into how high a dignity and to how weighty an Office ye are called: that is to say, to be Messengers, Watchmen, and Stewards of the Lord; to teach and to premonish, to feed and provide for, the Lord's family; to gather the outcasts, to seek the lost, and to be ever ready to spread abroad the Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with God. Have always therefore printed in your remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which he bought with his death and for whom he shed his blood. The Church which you must serve is his spouse and his body. And if it shall happen, the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, ye know the greatness of the fault, and also the fearful punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider with yourselves the end of the ministry toward the children of God, toward the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your care and diligence, until you have done all that lieth

in you, according to your bounden duty; to bring all such as are or shall be committed to your charge unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there be no place left among you either for error in religion or for viciousness in life.

Forasmuch then as your Office is both of so great excellency, and of so great difficulty, ye see with how great care and study ye ought to apply yourselves, as well that ye may show yourselves dutiful and thankful unto that Lord who hath placed you in so high a dignity; as also to beware that neither you yourselves offend, nor be occasion that others offend. Howbeit ye cannot have a mind and will thereto of yourselves, for that will and ability are given of God alone; therefore ye ought, and have need, to pray earnestly for his Holy Spirit. And seeing that ye cannot by any other means compass the doing of so weighty a work, pertaining to the salvation of man, but with doctrine and exhortation taken out of the Holy Scriptures; and with a life agreeable to the same; consider how studious ye ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures; and in framing the manners, both of yourselves and of them that specially pertain unto you; according to the rule of the same Scriptures; and for this selfsame cause, how ye ought to forsake and set aside, as much as you may, all worldly cares and studies.

We have good hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time; and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this Office, whereunto it has pleased God to call you: so that, as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves

wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continually pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Saviour Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures ye may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that ye may so endeavor to sanctify the lives of you and yours, and to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that ye may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now, that this present Congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties, ye shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same:

Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the Order of Elders?

Ans. I think so.

The Bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing (as required) of necessity for eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

Ans. I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.

The Bishop. Will you then give your faithful dil-

igence always so to minister the Doctrine, and Sacraments, and Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

Ans. I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

The Bishop. Will you be ready with all faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word, and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole within your charge, as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

Ans. I will, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you be diligent in Prayers, and in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Ans. I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?

Ans. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you reverently obey your chief Ministers, unto whom is committed the charge and government over you, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgments?

Ans. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

Then shall the Bishop, standing up, say:

Almighty God, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the Congregation shall be desired secretly in their Prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things: for the which Prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

After which shall be said by the Bishop, the Persons to be Ordained Elders all kneeling, Veni, Creator Spiritus, the Bishop beginning, and the Elders and others that are present answering by verse as followeth:

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight;
Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee of both to be but ONE;
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That done, the Bishop shall pray in this wise, and say:

Let us pray.

Almighty God and heavenly Father, who of thine infinite love and goodness toward us hast given to us thine only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors, by whose labor and ministry he gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of thy holy name: for these so great benefits of thy eternal goodness, and for that thou hast vouchsafed to call these thy servants here present to the same Office and Ministry appointed for the salvation of mankind, we render unto thee most hearty thanks; we praise and worship thee; and we humbly beseech thee by the same, thy blessed Son, to grant unto all who either here or elsewhere call upon thy name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto thee for these, and all other thy benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of thee and thy Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that as well by these thy Ministers, as by them over whom they shall be appointed thy Ministers, thy holy name may be forever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through the same, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

When this Prayer is done, the Bishop and the Elders present shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receiveth the Order of Elders; the Receivers humbly kneeling, and the Bishop saying:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of an Elder in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church, through the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the Word of God, and of his Holy Sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall deliver to every one of them, kneeling, the Bible into his hands, saying:

Take thou authority as an Elder in the Church, to preach the Word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments in the Congregation.

Then the Bishop shall offer the following Prayer:

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants thy heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy word spoken by their mouths may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of thy most holy Word, or agreeably to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us by thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

[If on the same day the Order of Deacons be given to some, and that of Elders to others, the Deacons shall be first presented, and then the Elders. The Collects shall both be used; first, that for Deacons, then that for Elders. The Epistle shall be Ephesians 4. 7-13, as before in this Office, immediately after which, they who are to be ordained Deacons shall be examined and ordained as is below prescribed. Then one of them having read the Gospel, which shall be Saint John 10. 1-16, as before in this Office, they who are to be ordained Elders shall likewise be examined and ordained, as in this Office before appointed.]

¶ 507. Form of Ordaining Deacons

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, there shall be a Sermon or Exhortation, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted to the Order of Deacons.]

After which one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop the Persons to be Ordained Deacons, and their names being read aloud the Bishop shall say unto the People:

BRETHREN, if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of these persons presented to be ordained Deacons, for the which he ought not to be admitted to that Office, let him come forth

in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be objected, the Bishop shall surcease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

Then shall be read the following Collect and Epistle:

The Collect

Almighty God, who by thy divine providence hast appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church, and didst inspire thy Apostles to choose into the Order of Deacons thy first martyr, Saint Stephen, with others: mercifully behold these thy servants, now called to the like Office and Administration; replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 3. 8-13

Likewise must the Deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the Office of a Deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the Deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the Office of a Deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Then shall the Bishop, in the presence of the People, examine every one of those who are to be Ordained, after this manner following:

Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the Office of the Ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

Ans. I trust so.

The Bishop. Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Ans. I do believe them.

The Bishop. Will you diligently read or expound the same unto the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

Ans. I will.

The Bishop. It appertaineth to the Office of a Deacon to assist the Elder in divine service, and especially when he ministereth the Holy Communion, to help him in the distribution thereof; to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youth; and to baptize. And furthermore, it is his office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

Ans. I will do so, by the help of God.

The Bishop. Will you apply all your diligence to frame and fashion your own lives and the lives of your families according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

Ans. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop. Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is com-

mitted, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

Then the Bishop, laying his hands severally upon the head of every one of them, shall say:

Take thou authority to execute the Office of a Deacon in the Church of God; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall the Bishop deliver to every one of them the Bible, saying:

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, and to preach the same.

Then one appointed by the Bishop shall read the Gospel:

Luke 12. 35-38

Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that, when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

Immediately before the Benediction shall be said these Collects following:

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who of thy great goodness hast vouchsafed to accept and take these thy servants into the Office of Deacons in thy Church: make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble, and constant in their ministration, and to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they, having always the testimony of a good conscience, and continuing ever stable and strong in thy Son Christ, may so well behave themselves in this inferior office that they may be found worthy to be called into the higher Ministries in thy Church, through the same, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ: to whom be glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ 508. Form for Consecration of Deaconesses

[Devotional Exercises and suitable Addresses may precede the following Order of Service.]

1. PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE

2. HYMN

(Or selection from Church Hymnal, if preferred.)

Saviour, thy dying love
Thou gavest me,
Nor should I aught withhold,
Dear Lord, from thee.
In love my soul would bow,
My heart fulfill its vow,
Some offering bring thee now,
Something for thee.

Give me a faithful heart,
Likeness to thee,
That each departing day
Henceforth may see
Some work of love begun,
Some deed of kindness done,
Some wanderer sought and won,
Something for thee.

3. RESPONSIVE READING

Leader. The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

Cong. For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Leader. He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Cong. The Lord lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground. Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God: for he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee.

Leader. Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

Cong. O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name.

Leader. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Cong. All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

Leader. Kings' daughters were among thy honorable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

Cong. Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house.

Leader. So shall the King greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

Cong. The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold.

Leader. She shall be brought unto the King in rai-

ment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.

Cong. With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the King's palace.

Leader. I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee forever and ever.

Cong. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

4. PRAYER

Let us pray:

O Eternal God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator of man and of woman, who didst replenish with thy Spirit Miriam and Deborah and Anna and Huldah; who didst not disdain that thy only begotten Son should be born of a woman; who also in the tabernacle of the testimony, and in the temple, didst ordain women to be keepers of thy holy gates—do thou now also look down upon these thy servants who are to be set apart to the office of Deaconess, and grant them thy Holy Spirit that they may worthily discharge the work which is committed to them, to thy glory, and the praise of thy Christ, with whom glory and adoration be to thee and the Holy Spirit forever. *Amen.*

5. ADDRESS TO THE CANDIDATES

Dear Sisters, we rejoice with you that in the good providence of God an open door of usefulness has been

found for you in the service of the Church of Christ. In our Master's wide vineyard there are a thousand forms of labor, and to each disciple some fitting task is assigned; but to you are accorded peculiar privileges and priceless opportunities. Released from other cares, you give yourselves without reservation to the service of the Lord of the Vineyard, ready for any duty which may fall to your lot. Like our blessed Master, you will henceforth go about doing good, ministering as he did to the wants of a suffering, sorrowing, and sin-laden world. The Church now solemnly sets you apart for her special service. You are to work for Jesus only. You are to minister to the poor, visit the sick, pray with the dying, care for the orphan, seek the wandering, comfort the sorrowing, save the sinning, and ever be ready to take up any other duty for which willing hands cannot otherwise be found. Such a ministry is one which confers upon you a great honor, but also a solemn responsibility. You have not entered upon it lightly, and no doubt in the sacred stillness of the sanctuary of the heart you have already consecrated yourselves to this office and work. What you have done alone with God, you now do formally and publicly in the presence of the Church.

Quest. Do you believe that you have been led by the Spirit and providence of God to engage in this work, and assume the duties of this office?

Ans. I do.

Quest. Do you, in the presence of God and of this congregation, promise faithfully to perform the duties of a Deaconess in the Church of God?

Ans. I do.

Quest. Do you accept the Bible as God's Word, and

will you make it a lamp unto your feet, and a light unto your path?

Ans. I so accept it, and will so walk in its light.

Quest. Will you strive to walk so close to your Saviour's side that you will ever carry his blessed presence to the hearts and homes of those to whom you minister?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do.

Quest. Will you cheerfully accept the direction of those whom the Church may set over you in the prosecution of your work?

Ans. I will cheerfully do so.

[Congregation and Candidates, kneeling, after a brief season of silent prayer unite in singing.]

6. HYMN

(Or selection from Church Hymnal, if preferred.)

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee;
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.

Take my will and make it thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is thine own,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my God, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store ;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

[The Congregation rise while Candidates remain kneeling.]

7. INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

May the Spirit of the Living God descend upon you and abide with you evermore. May his holy anointing impart to you grace for every trial, and gifts for every duty. May his presence be to you a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night, all along the journey of life; and may the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and evermore. *Amen.*

[The Candidates rise, and the Minister, taking the right hand of each Candidate, shall say:]

I admit thee to the office of Deaconess in the Church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

8. DISMISSAL, WITH BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CHAPTER VII

CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

¶ 509. Form for Laying the Corner Stone of a Church

The Minister, standing near the place where the Stone is to be laid, shall say unto the Congregation:

DEARLY BELOVED, we are taught in the Word of God, that, although the heaven of heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet his delight is ever with the sons of men, and that wherever two or three are gathered in his name, there is he in the midst of them. And in all ages his servants have separated certain places for his worship: as Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; as Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; as Solomon builded a temple for the Lord, which he filled with the glory of his presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the Corner Stone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing his praise, and in prayer for his blessing on this our undertaking.

Let one of the Hymns 656-666, Church Hymnal, be sung.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Most glorious God, the heaven is thy throne and the earth is thy footstool; what house then can be

builded for thee, or where is the place of thy rest? Yet, blessed be thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks unto thy holy name that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to erect in this place a house for thy worship. We thank thee for thy grace which has inclined them to contribute of their substance for the glory of thy name: and we pray thee to continue thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. *Amen.*

May many unite with them in their holy work, until this habitation of thy house shall be completed, and ready for dedication to thy service, free from all debt or claim of man. *Amen.*

May peace and harmony prevail in the counsels of thy servants, and may no selfish or divided aims find place among them. May the work of this building be completed without hurt or accident to any person. And when thou shalt have prospered the work of their hands upon them, and this house shall be prepared and finished for thy service, grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work may show forth their thankfulness by making a right use of it, to the glory of thy blessed name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship thee in the temple here to be builded may so serve and please thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to that temple on high, even to the holy place made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. *Amen.*

Hear us, O Lord, for thou art our God in whom we trust. And when we shall cease to pray unto thee on earth, may we, with all those who in like manner have erected such places to thy name, and with all thy saints and redeemed ones, eternally praise thee for all thy goodness vouchsafed unto us here on earth and laid up for us there in heaven. *Amen.*

Accept these our prayers, we beseech thee, for the sake of thy dear Son; and to thee, the only true and living God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be honor, praise, and glory, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and People may read it in alternate verses; the parts in italics to be read by the People:

Psalm 132

Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

How he sware unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to mine eyelids,

Until I find out a place for the Lord,

A habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness;

And let thy saints shout for joy.

For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it;

Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.

This is my rest forever; here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provision:

I will satisfy her poor with bread.

I will also clothe her priests with salvation:

And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

There will I make the horn of David to bud:

I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

His enemies will I clothe with shame:

But upon himself shall his crown flourish.

The Lesson. 1 Corinthians 3. 9-23

For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what

sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God: for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men: for all things are yours, whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Then shall follow the Sermon, or an address suitable to the occasion, after which the Contributions of the People shall be received.

Then shall the Minister, standing by the Stone, exhibit to the Congregation a box to be placed in an excavation of the Stone. It may contain a copy of the Bible, the Hymnal, the Discipline, the Church Year Book for the year, Church periodicals of recent date, the names of the Pastor, Trustees, and Building Committee of the Church, with such other documents as may be desired. A list of these may be read, after which the Minister may deposit the box in the Stone and cover it; and the Stone shall be laid and adjusted by the Minister, assisted by the Builder.

Then shall the Minister say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we lay this Corner Stone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated

to the service of Almighty God, according to the Order and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Amen.

The service may conclude with extemporary Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and the Benediction

¶ 510. Form for Dedication of a Church

The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, the Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to his name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory, and how in the second temple he manifested himself still more gloriously. And the Gospel approves and commends the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that he will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to his name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed, and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship his name in this place.

Let one of the Hymns 656-666, Church Hymnal, be sung. Afterward let extemporary Prayer be offered, the Congregation all kneeling.

Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read:

The First Lesson. 2 Chronicles 6. 1, 2, 18-21, 40-42;
7. 1-4

Then said Solomon, The Lord hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. But I have built a house of habitation for thee, and a place for thy dwelling forever.

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built! Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee: that thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place. Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling-place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Lord God, into thy resting-place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Lord God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed

the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshiped, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth forever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord.

The Second Lesson. Hebrews 10. 19-26

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having a high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised; and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

Then shall one of the Hymns 656-666, Church Hymnal, be sung; after which the Minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion. Contributions shall then be received from the People.

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the Congregation may read it alternately; the parts in italics to be read by the Congregation.

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

Unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

They shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls,

And prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Then let the Trustees stand up before the Altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the Minister:

We present unto you this Building, to be dedicated as a Church for the service and worship of Almighty God.

Then shall the Minister request the Congregation to stand, while he repeats the following

DECLARATION:

Dearly Beloved, it is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this Church, we dedicate it to his service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, I now call upon you all to dedicate yourselves anew to the service of God. To him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of his great name, and to the advancement of his kingdom. And that he may graciously accept this solemn act, let us pray.

The Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer:

O Most Glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking; re-

ceive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; affect them with an awful apprehension of thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Regard, O Lord, the supplication of thy servants, and grant that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ may come to that holy Ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and, being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain forgiveness of their sins, and all other benefits of his death. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to perform the same. *Amen.*

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come into this place of thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength.

Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night; and let thine ears be ready toward the prayers of thy children which they shall make unto thee in this place: and whensoever thy servants shall make to thee their petitions here, do thou hear them from heaven, thy dwelling-place, the throne of the glory of thy kingdom; and when thou hearest, forgive. And grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that here and elsewhere thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and thy saints rejoice in thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the glorious temple above; the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

*The service to conclude with a Doxology and
Benediction*

NOTE.—The Central Conference of Southern Asia is authorized to prepare and translate into the vernaculars simplified and adapted forms of such parts of the Ritual as may be deemed necessary, such portions to receive the sanction of the Board of Bishops.

APPENDIX

NOTE.—The matter contained in the Appendix to the Discipline is sufficiently important to justify publication. Some of it is taken from the General Conference Journals, and is therefore the action of the General Conference, although not ordered as part of the Discipline. Some of it, as the Courses of Study, has been prepared by the Bishops, under the authority of the General Conference, and is inserted for convenient reference; while other portions of it are suggestive and useful, such as Post Office Addresses, Administrative Boards, Forms, and the Rules of Order of the General Conference.

While unnecessary changes have been avoided, students of the Book of Discipline will note with pleasure a more distinct separation between THE CONSTITUTION and the LEGISLATION; and also the reference by paragraphs (§§) instead of pages in both the CONTENTS and the INDEX.

The statistical scheme has been greatly simplified and improved by action of the authorized Committee on Statistical Forms; and the Rules of Order have been restated by the Committee on Rules of Order appointed by the General Conference.

Our study of its Constitution and statutory enactments has deepened our love and strengthened our respect for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and we commend to the Ministry and Membership this new edition of the Discipline.

LUTHER BARTON WILSON,
JOSEPH BEAUMONT HINGELEY,
JAMES MONROE BUCKLEY,

Editors of the Discipline.

- APPENDIX
- I. POST OFFICE ADDRESSES OF BISHOPS
AND GENERAL OFFICERS
 - II. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIE-
TIES
 - III. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
 - IV. GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS
 - V. GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS
 - VI. GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS
 - VII. FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS
 - VIII. COURSES OF STUDY

CHAPTER I

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JOHN W. ROBINSON,	Methodist Episcopal Mission, Bombay, India
WILLIAM P. EVELAND,	Manila, Philippine Islands

¶ 513. Secretary of General Conference

JOSEPH B. HINGELEY, 14 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois

¶ 514. The Methodist Book Concern

PUBLISHING AGENTS

HOMER EATON, General Agent, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York
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 Cincinnati: HENRY C. JENNINGS, 220 Fourth Avenue, West
 Chicago: EDWIN R. GRAHAM, 14 West Washington Street

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 21 Adams Avenue, East, Detroit, Michigan
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 5 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

¶ 515. Editors

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 GEORGE P. ECKMAN: The Christian Advocate,
 150 Fifth Avenue, New York
 JOHN T. MCFARLAND: Sunday School Publications,
 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

- JOHN J. WALLACE: Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,
105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- LEVI GILBERT: Western Christian Advocate,
220 Fourth Avenue, West, Cincinnati, Ohio
- ALBERT J. NAST: Der Christliche Apologete,
220 Fourth Avenue, West, Cincinnati, Ohio
- A. J. BUCHER: Haus und Herd,
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- CLAUDIUS B. SPENCER: Central Christian Advocate,
1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri
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14 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
- FREEMAN D. BOVARD: California Christian Advocate,
5 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

§ 2. ELECTED BY THE BOOK COMMITTEE

- DAVID G. DOWNEY: Book Editor,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
220 Fourth Avenue, West, Cincinnati, Ohio

¶ 516. Corresponding Secretaries

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| S. EARL TAYLOR,
WILLIAM F. OLDHAM,
FRANK MASON NORTH, | } | Board of Foreign Missions,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York |
| WARD PLATT,
CHARLES M. BOSWELL,
ROBERT FORBES, | | Board of Home Missions and Church Ex-
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sylvania. |
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220 Fourth Avenue, West, Cincinnati, Ohio |
| THOMAS NICHOLSON | | Board of Education,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York |
| EDGAR BLAKE: | | Board of Sunday Schools,
14 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois |
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¶ 517. Treasurers and Assistant Treasurers

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- MARVIN CAMPBELL, *Treasurer*: Board of Conference Claimants,
14 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
- OSCAR P. MILLER, *Treasurer*: General Conference Commission,
Rock Rapids, Iowa

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIETIES

ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OR APPOINTED BY THE
BISHOPS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

¶ 518. Book Committee

§ 1. District Members

District	Name	Conference	Term Expires
I.	Silas Peirce.....	New England.....	1916
	59 Commercial Street, Boston, Massachusetts.		

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS

1518

District	Conference	Term Expires
II. John Handley	New Jersey	1920
Ocean Grove, New Jersey.		
III. J. G. Shepherd	Wyoming	1916
892 Linden Street, Scranton, Pennsylvania.		
IV. W. F. Conner	Pittsburgh	1920
233 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.		
V. R. T. Stevenson	North-East Ohio	1916
Delaware, Ohio.		
VI. J. A. Patten	Holston	1920
Chattanooga, Tennessee.		
VII. M. S. Davage	Louisiana	1920
631 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.		
VIII. Hanford Crawford	Saint Louis	1916
4442 Lindell Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri.		
IX. H. M. Havner	Iowa	1920
Marengo, Iowa.		
X. Joe Bell	Central Illinois	1920
Galesburg, Illinois.		
XI. C. E. Bacon	Indiana	1916
90 Ogden Street, Hammond, Indiana.		
XII. J. S. Ulland	Northern Minnesota	1920
Fergus Falls, Minnesota.		
XIII. W. E. Bletsch	Chicago German	1916
4617 North Paulina Street, Chicago, Illinois.		
XIV. Rolla V. Watt	California	1920
122 Sansome Street, San Francisco, California.		
XV. W. W. Van Dusen	Idaho	1916
Boise, Idaho.		

§ 2. Local Committee at New York

Name	Conference	Term Expires
J. W. Pearsall	Newark	1920
Ridgewood, New Jersey.		
E. B. Tuttle	New York East	1920
494 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.		
J. E. Andrus	New York	1916
Yonkers, New York.		
J. E. Holmes	New York East	1920
413 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, New York.		
E. S. Tipple	New York	1916
Madison, New Jersey,		

§ 3. Local Committee at Cincinnati

Name	Conference	Term Expires
R. T. Miller	Kentucky	1920
P. O. Box 414, Cincinnati, Ohio.		
E. E. Shipley	Cincinnati	1916
603 First National Bank Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.		
R. Anderson	Rock River	1916
504 Sherman Street, Chicago, Illinois.		
C. M. Van Pelt	Cincinnati	1916
Station M, Cincinnati, Ohio.		
Herbert Scott	Ohio	1920
791 Oak Street, Columbus, Ohio.		

¶ 519. District Representatives on the General Committee: For the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Freedmen's Aid Society

"THE GENERAL COMMITTEE"

[One Minister and one Layman nominated by the delegates of each General Conference District, and elected by the General Conference]

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II.	Allan MacRossie	New York
548 West 142d Street, New York.		
S. R. Smith		New York East
Freeport, New York.		
III.	Samuel J. Greenfield	Northern New York
Utica, New York.		
T. D. Collins		Erie
Nebraska, Pennsylvania.		

District	Name	Conference
IV.	J. G. Wilson 2017 Diamond Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.	Philadelphia
	H. S. Dulaney 517 West Lombard Street, Baltimore, Maryland.	Baltimore
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	O. F. Hypes Springfield, Ohio.	Cincinnati
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	C. W. Kinne Jacksonville, Florida.	Saint Johns River
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	Perley Lowe 1822 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.	Rock River
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	W. E. Carpenter Brazil, Indiana.	Northwest Indiana
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	F. J. Clemans New York Life Building, Saint Paul, Minnesota.	Minnesota
XIII.	Otto Wilke 167 Wooster Avenue, Pasadena, California.	California German
	J. S. Schneider 106 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio.	Central German
XIV.	D. D. Forsyth University Park, Colorado.	Colorado
	A. J. Wallace Los Angeles, California.	Southern California
XV.	J. P. Marlatt 1914 Second Avenue, West, Seattle, Washington.	Puget Sound
	A. M. Smith 1401 Yeon Building, Portland, Oregon.	Oregon

¶ 520. Board of Foreign Missions

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Assistant Treasurer, HOMER EATON.

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J. E. Leaycraft, A. L. Johnson, M. W. Dogan, Samuel Dickie, W. C.
Evans, H. N. Curtis, W. V. Kelley, W. H. Heisler.

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524. University Senate

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III.	W. H. Crawford	Allegheny College
IV.	E. A. Noble	Dickinson College
V.	Herbert Welch	Ohio Wesleyan University
VI.	J. H. Race	University of Chattanooga
VII.	J. M. Cox	Philander Smith College
VIII.	W. N. Mason	Baker University
IX.	E. A. Schell	Iowa Wesleyan College
X.	A. W. Harris	Northwestern University
XI.	H. A. Gobin	De Pauw University
XII.	Samuel Plantz	Lawrence College
XIII.	A. L. Breslich	German Wallace College
XIV.	G. F. Bovard	University of Southern California
XV.	Fletcher Homan	Willamette University

525. Board of Sunday Schools

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Treasurer, EDWIN R. GRAHAM.

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A. J. Bucher, Editor German Sunday School Publications.

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III.	O. L. Severson,	X.	J. M. Mitchell,
IV.	John Walton,	XI.	Wesley Sears,
V.	C. M. Van Pelt,	XII.	F. M. Rule,
VI.	C. L. Parham,	XIII.	F. T. Enderis,
VII.	A. W. Brazier,	XIV.	F. M. Larkin,
	XV.		Walton Skipworth.

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Treasurer, HENRY C. JENNINGS.

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Levi Gilbert,
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Herbert Scott.

E. A. White,
Herbert Welch,
J. H. Race,
H. D. Ketcham,
H. C. Weakley,
S. J. Miller.

LAYMEN

H. C. Minnich,
O. F. Hypes,
J. A. Patten,
R. B. McRary,
E. P. Marshall,
E. R. Graham.

L. N. Gatch,
E. C. Harley,
F. B. Dyer,
E. D. Lyon,
J. E. Annis,
C. F. Coffin.

523. Board of Education

OFFICE: 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

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Recording Secretary, EZRA S. TIPPLE.

Treasurer, J. EDGAR LEAYCRAFT.

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Evans, H. N. Curtis, W. V. Kelley, W. H. Heisler.

TERM EXPIRES IN 1920

Bishop Anderson, W. F. King, A. W. Harris, Charles Scott, Jr.,
J. A. Patten, G. D. Selby, G. H. Bradford, Gottlieb Golder, E. L.
Mills, C. E. Patterson, J. H. Race, J. W. Pearsall.

TERM EXPIRES IN 1924

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Nicholson, C. W. Laycock, G. W. Brown, J. R. Harker, W. A. Rankin,
William Halls, Jr., E. L. Blaine, J. M. Bulwinkle.

524. University Senate

At Large, J. R. DAY, Syracuse University, President

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I.	L. H. Murlin	Boston University
II.	W. A. Shanklin	Wesleyan University
III.	W. H. Crawford	Allegheny College
IV.	E. A. Noble	Dickinson College
V.	Herbert Welch	Ohio Wesleyan University
VI.	J. H. Race	University of Chattanooga
VII.	J. M. Cox	Philander Smith College
VIII.	W. N. Mason	Baker University
IX.	E. A. Schell	Iowa Wesleyan College
X.	A. W. Harris	Northwestern University
XI.	H. A. Gobin	De Pauw University
XII.	Samuel Plantz	Lawrence College
XIII.	A. L. Breslich	German Wallace College
XIV.	G. F. Bovard	University of Southern California
XV.	Fletcher Homan	Willamette University

525. Board of Sunday Schools

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DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District	Name	District	Name
I.	J. W. Hatch,	VIII.	W. C. Hanson,
II.	H. P. Bennett,	IX.	I. B. Schreckengast,
III.	O. L. Severson,	X.	J. M. Mitchell,
IV.	John Walton,	XI.	Wesley Sears,
V.	C. M. Van Pelt,	XII.	F. M. Rule,
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J. O. Pew.

J. A. Mulfinger,

J. W. Van Cleve,

E. C. E. Dorion,

B. F. Adams,

G. Warren Brown,

O. P. Miller,

¶ 527. Epworth League

OFFICE: 14 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois

General Secretary, WILBUR F. SHERIDAN

BOARD OF CONTROL

BISHOP BRISTOL, *President*

District	Name	Conference
I.	H. B. Haskell	East Maine
II.	C. A. Titus	Newark
III.	W. E. Brown	Central New York
IV.	J. W. Coley	Wilmington
V.	H. S. Powell	North-East Ohio
VI.	E. J. Sawyer	South Carolina
VII.	K. W. McMillan	Texas
VIII.	Homer Hall	Missouri
IX.	J. L. Gillies	Northwest Iowa
X.	J. M. Mitchell	Southern Illinois
XI.		
XII.	A. P. Nelson	West Wisconsin
XIII.	C. F. Blume	Northern German
XIV.	T. P. Barber	Colorado
XV.	J. A. Martin	North Montana

AT LARGE

E. H. Forkel	Rock River
Carl F. Price	New York
Chesteen Smith	North Indiana

ADVISORY MEMBERS

D. B. Brummitt	Rock River
W. F. Sheridan	Saint Louis
A. J. Bucher	Central German

¶ 528. Methodist Brotherhood

OFFICE: 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

President, F. E. TASKER.

Vice-Presidents, C. F. REISNER, F. M. NORTH, W. A. SHANKLIN, A. E. CRAIG, E. G. BEK.

Acting General Secretary, C. F. REISNER.

Recording Secretary, J. R. JOY.

Treasurer, R. H. MONTGOMERY.

MANAGING BOARD

The General Officers

Bishops Nuelsen, Burt, and Leete

Representatives in Foreign Fields, Bishops Nuelsen and Warne.

AT-LARGE

H. E. Dingley,
D. G. Downey,
W. G. Clinton,W. M. Wilson,
G. P. Eckman,
H. F. Rall.

REPRESENTING GENERAL CONFERENCE DISTRICTS

District	Name	Conference
I.	L. A. Nies	New England
II.	H. H. Beattys	New York East
III.	D. L. Tuttle	Genesee
IV.	H. G. Samson	Pittsburgh
V.	Herbert Scott	Ohio
VI.	J. A. Patten	Holston
VII.	M. W. Dogan	Texas
VIII.	Hanford Crawford	Saint Louis
IX.	E. C. Crossett	Upper Iowa
X.	S. J. Herben	Rock River
XI.	C. F. Coffin	Indiana
XII.	Thomas Nicholson	Dakota
XIII.	Gottlieb Golder	Central German
XIV.	F. D. Bovard	California
XV.	R. A. Booth	Oregon

¶ 529. Church Temperance Society

OFFICE: Topeka, Kansas

General Secretary, CLARENCE TRUE WILSON

BOARD OF MANAGERS

President, BISHOP SHEPARD.

Recording Secretary, EDWIN LOCKE.

Treasurer, E. H. ANDERSON.

MINISTERS

C. B. Spencer,

J. A. Stavely,

John MacDean,

H. E. Wolfe,

C. M. Shepherd,

Edwin Locke

LAYMEN

Manford Schoonover,
E. W. Hoch,
A. E. Wilson,
J. C. Ruppenthal,
William H. Anderson,
J. M. Miller,
L. O. Jones,

H. A. Larson,
J. R. Lankard,
John Puntton,
D. M. Rankin,
Charles Strader,
S. H. Warrick,
E. H. Anderson.

¶ 530. General Deaconess Board

Bishops Burt, Anderson, and Smith

At Large: Wallace MacMullen, R. T. Stevenson, J. L. Sooy.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

I. R. F. Lowe,
II. A. S. Kavanagh,
III. Byron Walker,
IV. J. W. Cary,
V. E. O. Crist,
VI. S. H. Thompson,
VII. J. B. F. Shaw,

VIII. J. F. Holden,
IX. G. M. Spurlock,
X. T. P. Frost,
XI. Alonzo B. Leonard,
XII. F. B. Cowgill,
XIII. John Schneider,
XIV. G. W. White,

XV. W. H. W. Rees.

¶ 531. Trustees of Chartered Fund

OFFICE: 129 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

President, GEORGE I. BODINE.

Secretary, EDGAR J. PERSHING.

Treasurer, FRANKLIN I. BODINE.

Henry Z. Zeigler,

Joseph H. Chubb,

James Long,

Avery D. Harrington,

Henry T. Maris.

¶ 532. Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church

OFFICE: 222 Fourth Avenue, West, Cincinnati, Ohio

President, JOHN M. WALDEN.

Secretary, JOHN PEARSON.

Treasurer, JESSE R. CLARK.

CLASS 1. TERM EXPIRES IN 1916

Ministers: John M. Walden, David H. Moore, Frank S. Tincher.

Laymen: Robert T. Miller, Jesse R. Clark, Merrill C. Slutes.

CLASS 2. TERM EXPIRES IN 1916

Ministers: Frank G. Mitchell, John Pearson, Edward B. Rawls.

Laymen: James N. Gamble, Norman W. Harris, Herbert A. Winans.

¶ 533. Corporate Names of Organizations, with Name of State under whose Laws each was Incorporated

The Chartered Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania.*

Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Ohio.*

Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York.*

The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania.*

Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Ohio.*

Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York.*

The Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois.*

Board of Conference Claimants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois.*

The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois.*

¶ 534. General Conference Commissions

§ 1. COMMISSION ON FINANCE

Bishops Cranston, Hamilton, and Smith

Ministers: A. J. Coultas, E. J. Lockwood, W. A. Layton, D. D. Forsyth, W. F. Conner, L. C. Murdock.

Laymen: E. W. Halford, John Walton, F. C. Evans, Charles Gibson, W. B. Comfort, Hanford Crawford.

§ 2. COMMISSION ON FEDERATION

Bishops Walden, Cranston, and Luccock

Ministers: J. F. Goucher, E. S. Tipple, A. B. Storms.

Laymen: R. T. Miller, J. A. Patten, G. Warren Brown.

§ 3. COMMISSION ON FEDERATION OF COLORED CHURCHES

Bishops Walden, Henderson, and Thirkield

Ministers: J. P. Wragg, R. E. Jones, R. E. Gillum.

Laymen: D. G. Penn, E. H. McKissack, L. J. Price.

§ 4. COMMISSION ON FAITH AND ORDER

Bishops Hamilton, Bashford, and Cooke

¶ 535 THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

§ 5. COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

Bishops Berry, Hughes, and Henderson
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District	Name	District	Name
I.	J. H. Coleman, David Gordon.	VIII.	J. W. Sommerville, S. H. Prather.
II.	C. L. Goodell, Benjamin Moore.	IX.	O. W. Fifer, B. L. Paine.
III.	F. H. Coman, C. E. Welch.	X.	H. V. Holt, W. A. Rankin.
IV.	J. G. Wilson, I. E. Robinson.	XI.	Sommerville Light, W. A. Foote.
V.	N. W. Stroup, W. O. Allen.	XII.	R. S. Ingraham, C. A. Pollock.
VI.	D. T. Sommerville, C. W. Olson.	XIII.	F. W. Miller, George Boesh.
VII.	N. R. Clay, R. S. Lovinggood.	XIV.	C. E. Locke, W. L. Hartman.
	XV. Benjamin Young, D. H. Cox.		

CHAPTER III

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

¶ 535. Location and Entertainment

The Book Committee is hereby appointed a Commission to select the place of meeting of the next General Conference and to provide for its entertainment.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 536. Traveling Expenses of Delegates

The traveling expenses of a delegate to and from the seat of the General Conference shall be paid in such proportion as the number of days of his attendance sustains to the total number of days of the session of the General Conference; exceptions on account of sickness to be determined by the Committee on Credentials.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 537. Rules of Order

ORGANIZATION

RULE 1. *Organization.* When a General Conference shall have been convened in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, after the Devotional Services and the calling of the roll, if a quorum is present, it shall proceed to organization by the election of a Secretary, by ballot if there be more than one nomination, otherwise by acclamation; electing also such Assistant Secretaries, upon nomination of the Secretary, as it may deem necessary.

TIME OF MEETING, RECESS, AND ADJOURNMENT

RULE 2. *After the opening session* the General Conference shall meet at 8:30 o'clock A. M., and adjourn at 12:30 o'clock P. M.; but the General Conference, at its discretion, may alter the time of meeting and may adjourn and fix the time to which it shall adjourn. A recess of ten minutes shall be taken at 10:30 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered.

THE PRESIDENT

RULE 3. *The President shall take the chair* precisely at the hour to which the General Conference stood adjourned, and cause the session to be opened by the reading of the Scriptures, singing, and prayer. On the appearance of a quorum he shall have the Journal of the preceding session read and approved, and see that the business of the Conference proceed regularly, according to the Rules of Order and such other rules and regulations as may be adopted by the General Conference.

RULE 4. *The President shall decide all questions of order*, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. In case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate, except that the President may state the grounds of his decision, and the appellant may state the grounds of his appeal.

RULE 5. *The President shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise especially ordered by the Conference.*

RULE 6. *On assigning the floor to a member the President shall distinctly announce the name of the delegate and of the Annual Conference which he represents.*

ORDER OF BUSINESS

RULE 7. *The regular order of business shall be:*

I. DEVOTIONAL SERVICES.

II. READING OF THE JOURNAL of the preceding session, and action thereon.

III. CALL OF CONFERENCES in alphabetical order for the presentation of appeals, resolutions, and miscellaneous business, *for immediate passage.*

(1) When a proposition has been presented under the Call of Conferences, and before the person who introduced the proposition shall speak, the Question of Consideration may be raised by a member saying:

"Mr. President, on that I raise the Question of Consideration."

The Question of Consideration shall then be put without debate, and if there is a two-thirds vote against consideration, the proposition shall not be entertained; but if consideration be not denied the person introducing the proposition may speak to it if it be seconded.

(2) After the person introducing the proposition has spoken, a motion to refer, if made, shall be decided without debate; or a motion to defer consideration and print in the *Daily Advocate*, if sustained by one hundred and fifty members, shall prevail without debate; in which case the proposition shall be given precedence under the next Call of Conferences; at which time also it shall be subject to the question of consideration or the motion of reference the same as when originally introduced; provided, however, that a proposition which has been refused consideration shall not be printed in the *Daily Advocate* or the General Conference Journal.

IV. CALL OF STANDING COMMITTEES for Reports.

V. CALL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES for Reports.

VI. CALL FOR MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

These CALLS shall be made in the order herein given, and shall be severally completed before the introduction of other business, except by a formal suspension of the Rules. They shall be repeated, in the same order, until dispensed with by a formal vote.

RULE 8. No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the General Conference without leave, unless he be unable to attend.

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

RULE 9. When a member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the General Conference, he shall rise and respectfully address the President, but shall not proceed until recognized by him. The member must address the chair from his place.

RULE 10. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain when he thinks himself misrepresented.

RULE 11. When a member desires to speak to a question of privilege he shall briefly state the question; but it shall not be in order for him to proceed until the President shall have decided that it is a privileged question. Questions of privilege are limited to matters relating to the rights and welfare of the individual as a member or of the whole body; and must be of such an imperative character as to justify the interruption of the regular order.

It shall be the imperative duty of the President to require the member who desires to speak to a question of privilege to state his question of privilege. This having been done, the President shall decide whether it

shall be allowed; and, if it be allowed, shall hold the member closely to the subject.

RULE 12. *No person shall speak more than once on the same question until every member who chooses to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than ten minutes at one time, without leave of the General Conference.*

Provided, however, that a committee making a report through its chairman, or one of its members selected by the committee or by its chairman, shall be entitled to ten minutes to close the debate, either to oppose the motion to lay the report on the table, or, this permission not having been used, to close the debate on the motion to adopt. The committee shall not be deprived of its right to close the debate even after the previous question has been ordered, and, when a report consisting of two or more propositions has a seriatim consideration, the chairman or representative of the committee shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges on each proposition thus decided separately as he would have had if the report had been considered as a unit. A similar privilege is granted to the chairman in charge of a minority report. See RULE 52 and RULE 53.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

RULE 13. *Resolutions shall be written and presented in duplicate by the mover. A motion shall be reduced to writing if the President, Secretary, or a member request it. If the General Conference shall order a resolution to be referred to a committee, then the mover shall furnish to the Secretary a third copy thereof for the use of the committee.*

RULE 14. *Reading.* All written motions, reports, and communications to the General Conference shall be passed to the Secretary, to be read by him to the General Conference.

RULE 15. *When a motion is made and seconded, or*

a resolution introduced and seconded, or a report presented and read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference.

RULE 16. *The following motions shall be taken without debate:*

- (1) To adjourn.
- (2) To suspend the rules.
- (3) To lay on the table.
- (4) To take from the table.
- (5) To raise the question of consideration.
- (6) To call for the previous question.
- (7) To reconsider a nondebatable motion.
- (8) To postpone indefinitely.
- (9) To refer, under Rule 7 (2).
- (10) To defer and print, under Rule 7 (2).

RULE 17. *No new motion or resolution shall be entertained until the one under consideration has been disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection; but one or more of the following motions may be made, and they shall have precedence in the order in which they are given, namely:*

- (1) To fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn. (may be amended, substituted, or laid on the table).
- (2) To adjourn.
- (3) To take a recess.
- (4) To lay on the table.
- (5) To order the previous question (cannot be laid on the table).
- (6) To postpone to a given time.
- (7) To refer.
- (8) To substitute.
- (9) To amend.
- (10) To postpone indefinitely.

RULE 18. *Only one amendment to an amendment shall be in order, but then it shall be in order to move a substitute for the main question, and one amendment*

to the substitute, and if the substitute is accepted, it shall replace the original proposition.

RULE 19. *It shall be in order to move the previous question*—that is, that the question be taken without further debate—on any measure pending, except in cases in which moral character is involved. If the call for the previous question be sustained by a vote (of two thirds of the members present and voting, the main question shall be put; nevertheless, under this rule, after the previous question has been ordered, it shall be in order to divide, or to move to refer, or to recommit or to lay on the table. It shall not be in order for a member to move the previous question or to move to lay on the table at the close of a speech in which he has discussed the pending question.)

RULE 20. *When a vote is about to be taken* any member shall have the right to call for the division of a question, if it be divisible into distinct propositions.

RULE 21. *The motion to adjourn* shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except

(1) When a member has the floor.

(2) When a question is actually put, or a vote is being taken, or until finally decided.

(3) When a question is pending on sustaining the demand for the previous question.

(4) When the previous question has been called and sustained, and action under it is pending.

(5) When a motion to adjourn has been negatived, and no business or debate has intervened.

(6) When a motion to fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn is pending.

RULE 22. Reconsideration. When any motion or resolution shall have been acted upon by the General Conference, it shall be in order for any member who voted with the prevailing side to move a reconsideration; provided, that a motion to reconsider a nondebatable motion shall be decided without debate.

RULE 23. Changes of Discipline. All resolutions pro-

posing changes of the Discipline shall state the language of the paragraph, the line to be altered, and the language to be substituted; and no such proposed change shall be considered until it has been in the possession of the General Conference for one day and shall have been printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*; but while it is under consideration amendments which are germane shall be in order.

RULE 24. *When any member shall move the reference of any portion of the Journal of an Annual Conference to any committee he must at the same time furnish a copy of the portion he wishes to have referred, prepared as provided by Rule 32 in the case of memorials.*

VOTING

RULE 25. *Every member who is within the bar at the time a question is put shall vote, unless, for special reasons, excused by the General Conference. A member who is not within the bar at the time when a question shall be put by the President shall not be allowed to vote except by leave of the General Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.*

RULE 26. *Voting shall be by the uplifted hand, but on a division of the house, a count vote shall be taken, the members rising in their places and standing until they shall have been counted. Votes may also be taken by ballot and by AYES and NOES.*

RULE 27. *Ayes and Noes.* It shall be in order for any member to call for the AYES and NOES on any question before the General Conference, and if the call be sustained by one hundred members present, the vote thereon shall be so taken. If the call be not sustained, members voting in the minority may have their votes recorded.

RULE 28. *Order of Voting.* In voting when there is a substitute and amendments have been proposed to the original resolution and an amendment to the substitute has been moved, the General Conference shall

pursue the following order, namely: The main question shall first be perfected by voting on the amendments proposed thereto, and then the General Conference shall vote upon the amendment to the substitute, then upon the question of substitution, and finally upon the question of adoption.

RULE 29. *A call for a vote by orders* shall be made and seconded by members of the same order, and shall require the vote of one third of the members of that order present and voting.

RULE 30. *When voting by orders* the separation shall be merely in regard to the taking, announcing, deciding, and recording the vote of each order on the question on which the separate vote is demanded. Any incidental question bearing upon such vote shall be decided by the General Conference acting as one body. In taking a vote by orders it shall be by a count vote, first of the order calling for the separate vote and then of the other order. Either order may call for the AYES and NOES by one fourth of its members, and if the call is sustained, the names of the members, first of the order calling for a separate vote, and then of the other order, shall be called, and each member shall answer AYE or NO.

MEMORIALS, RESOLUTIONS, AND PAPERS FOR UNANIMOUS REFERENCE

RULE 31. *Memorials.* Three copies of memorials, resolutions, and miscellaneous papers presented for reference to a committee, and not for immediate consideration, shall be placed in the hands of the Secretary without announcement.

RULE 32. *Members presenting such memorials, petitions, and other papers for reference* shall prepare the papers by writing plainly on the back of them, after folding, the following items in the order herein given, namely:

- (1) Name of member presenting the paper.
- (2) Conference to which he belongs.

(3) Conference, member, or church from which the paper comes.

(4) Subject to which it relates.

(5) First name on the petition.

(6) Number of other petitioners.

(7) Committee to which it is to be referred.

RULE 33. Memorials, resolutions, and other papers thus presented shall be *delivered directly to the Secretary* of the General Conference, in triplicate, and shall be sent by him to the appropriate committee and announced in the Journal of the day; provided, that in case of memorials and documents of unusual length, which are not intended for publication, one complete original copy shall be required, and two copies of the indorsement thereon as required by this paragraph.

RULE 34. *The Secretary of the General Conference* shall appoint a Committee of Reference, of which he shall be chairman, which shall carefully examine all memorials and other documents presented for reference and see that they be referred to the proper committees. Such committee, at its discretion, may withhold from reference documents which reflect on personal character, subject to final disposition by the General Conference.

RULE 35. *Memorials, petitions, etc.,* for reference to committees may be mailed to the Secretary of the General Conference at any time within four months previous to the session of the General Conference, for early classification and reference to the several Standing Committees.

RULE 36. *There shall be fifteen Standing Committees as follows:*

COMMITTEES

- I. Episcopacy.
- II. Judiciary.
- III. Itinerancy.
- IV. Boundaries.
- V. Revision.

VI. Temporal Economy. (8)

VII. State of the Church. (9)

VIII. Book Concern. (4)

IX. Foreign Missions. (7)

X. Home Missions and Church Extension. (6)

XI. Education. (17)

XII. Freedmen. (22)

XIII. Sunday Schools. (10)

XIV. Epworth League. (10)

XV. Deaconess Work. (10)

RULE 37. *For the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Revision* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one member, and the Bishops shall nominate four, making the total number nineteen. These Committees shall meet at such times as they may elect, or as may be ordered by the General Conference.

RULE 38. *For the Committee on Deaconess Work* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one layman and one minister, and the Board of Bishops shall nominate nine, making a total of thirty-nine. The committee shall meet as it may elect.

RULE 39. *The other Standing Committees* shall be divided into two groups, designated as GROUP A, meeting at 3 P. M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and GROUP B, meeting at 3 P. M. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, as follows:

GROUP A.—Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

Episcopacy.

Itinerancy.

Boundaries.

Temporal Economy.

State of the Church.

Epworth League.

GROUP B.—Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.

Book Concern.

Foreign Missions.

Home Missions.

Education.

Freedmen.

Sunday Schools.

RULE 40. Assignments to Standing Committees. As soon as practicable after the election of delegates the Secretary of each Annual Conference shall call together the ministerial and lay delegates for organization. They shall select one of their number as chairman, and shall assign one minister and one layman to membership in each standing committee, except the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work; provided, that no delegate shall be assigned to more than six standing committees, and that each Conference shall have at least one representative on each committee. The chairman of the delegation shall immediately forward to the Secretary of the General Conference the names of the delegates from his Conference, arranged alphabetically, indicating the order to which each belongs, and the standing committees in GROUP A and GROUP B to which each is assigned; and from these returns the Secretary of the General Conference shall construct, as far as possible, the roll of standing committees in advance of the opening of the General Conference.

RULE 41. Reference of Memorials, etc. The proper reference of memorials, petitions, etc., to the several standing committees is indicated generally by the title of the committee or the subject matter of the paper; but the following special references should be made:

To the Standing Committee on Judiciary shall be referred all appeals from Conferences, from individual ministers and members of the Church, appeals from the decisions of Judicial Conferences, and other questions which may be referred to it by the General Conference.

To Itinerancy: Memorials, etc., relating to the Pastorate, District Superintendency, Conference Claimants, the Local Ministry, and Church Membership; also Annual Conference Journals.

To Temporal Economy: Memorials, etc., relating to General Conference Elections, Lay Conferences, Ratio of Representation; also temporalities in general, and matters relating to property and financial interests.

To State of the Church: Memorials, etc., relating to the general welfare of the Church, not clearly belonging to other committees; also Temperance and Prohibition, Evils and Perils, Sabbath Observance, Divorce, Amusements, etc.

To the Standing Committee on Revision shall be sent all committee reports, for final editing and verbal revision prior to being printed in the *Daily Advocate*, or to action by the General Conference. To the Committee on Revision the General Conference also may refer any resolution or report for more careful and exact statement. It shall consider also questions relating to the Book of Discipline and the General Conference Journal.

RULE 42. *The General Conference shall elect* the following special committees to consist of one member from each General Conference District, to be nominated by the Bishops at the morning session of the third day:

American Bible Society.

Evangelism.

Federation.

Brotherhoods.

Also special committees on Credentials and on Fraternal Delegates, to be nominated by the Bishops at the opening session; and such other committees as the General Conference from time to time shall determine.

RULE 43. *A business Quorum of a Standing Committee* shall be thirty-five, except that for the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work, a majority of all the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

RULE 44. *Committees shall not originate business,* but shall consider all subjects referred to them by the General Conference.

RULE 45. *A committee shall not consider a matter which the General Conference has refused to refer to it.*

RULE 46. *When a matter has been received by the General Conference and referred to a committee, and a report thereon has been made, it shall not be in order for another committee to consider the same subject, or for the General Conference to entertain a report from another committee on the same subject; but should a committee ascertain that a subject which has been referred to it has been referred also to another committee, it shall report the fact to the Secretary of the General Conference, who shall reassign the paper to the proper committee unless he be in doubt; in which case he shall report the matter to the General Conference for its decision.*

RULE 47. *There shall not be reported as coming from a committee any matter which has not been considered and acted upon by the committee duly assembled.*

RULE 48. *Committee reports which propose changes of the Discipline shall recite not only the paragraph and line to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.*

REPORTS

RULE 49. *Committees shall furnish to the Committee on Revision duplicate copies of their reports, one copy for the Secretary of the General Conference and one for the Daily Christian Advocate.*

RULE 50. *Reports of Standing Committees signed by the chairman and secretary, and minority reports signed by at least ten members, shall be considered to be in the possession of the Conference when they shall have been printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. But in a minority report from the Committee on Judiciary one signature shall be sufficient.*

RULE 51. *When the chairman of a committee is not in harmony with a report ordered by the committee, it shall be his duty to state the fact to the committee, and the committee shall elect one of its members to represent*

it in the presentation and discussion of the report in the General Conference; but, if in such a case the committee fail to select such a representative, the chairman shall designate a member to represent the action of the committee, and said representative shall have all the rights and privileges of the chairman in relation to such reports.

RULE 52. *The person designated to present the minority report shall have all the privileges in reference to the minority report that are given by Rule 12 to the chairman presenting a majority report; except that the chairman presenting the majority report shall have the right of closing the debate on the question of substituting the minority report for the majority report.*

MISCELLANEOUS

RULE 53. *Demonstrations of approval or disapproval during the progress of debate shall be deemed a breach of order.*

RULE 54. *No persons except members, ushers, and pages shall stand in the open spaces in the room.*

RULE 55. *The ushers shall keep the aisles clear for their proper use, and none but delegates shall be admitted within the inclosure reserved for the delegates.*

RULE 56. *In all matters not specified herein the proceedings of the General Conference shall be governed by Common Parliamentary Law.*

RULE 57. *These rules shall not be suspended except by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting.*

¶ 538. General Conference Districts

Missions [in brackets] are included in Districts as constituted. The figures following the names of Conferences and Districts indicate the number of delegates to which they were entitled respectively at the close of the General Conference of 1912.

I. East Maine, 4; Eastern Swedish, 2; Maine, 4; New Hampshire, 4; New England, 12; New England Southern, 8; Troy, 12; Vermont, 4.
Total, 50.

II. Denmark, 2; Italy, 2; New Jersey, 10; New York, 12; New York East, 14; Newark, 10; Norway, 2; Sweden, 4. Total, 56. [Porto Rico Mission.]

III. Central New York, 10; Erie, 10; Genesee, 12; Northern New York, 10; Wyoming, 10. Total, 52.

IV. Baltimore, 10; Central Pennsylvania, 12; Philadelphia, 14; Pittsburgh, 12; West Virginia, 12; Wilmington, 8. Total, 68.

V. Central Ohio, 10; Cincinnati, 10; North-East Ohio, 20; Ohio, 12; Kentucky, 4. Total, 56.

VI. Alabama, 2; Blue Ridge-Atlantic, 2; Central Tennessee, 2; Delaware, 6; East Tennessee, 12; Georgia, 2; Gulf, 2; Holston, 6; Liberia, 2; North Carolina, 4; Saint Johns River, 2; South Carolina, 8; Washington, 6. Total, 46.

VII. Atlanta, 4; Central Alabama, 4; Central Missouri, 4; Florida, 4; Lexington, 6; Lincoln, 2; Little Rock, 4; Louisiana, 8; Mississippi, 6; Savannah, 2; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 6; Upper Mississippi, 6; West Texas, 4. Total, 64. [South Florida Mission.]

VIII. Arkansas, 2; Kansas, 10; Missouri, 6; Northwest Kansas, 6; Oklahoma, 8; Saint Louis, 8; South Kansas, 8; Southwest Kansas, 8; Western Swedish, 2. Total, 58.

IX. Des Moines, 12; Iowa, 8; Nebraska, 8; North Nebraska, 6; Northwest Iowa, 10; Northwest Nebraska, 2; Upper Iowa, 10; West Nebraska, 4. Total, 60.

X. Central Illinois, 10; Central Swedish, 2; Illinois, 18; Norwegian and Danish, 2; Rock River, 16; Southern Illinois, 8. Total, 56.

XI. Detroit, 16; Indiana, 14; Michigan, 16; North Indiana, 12; Northwest Indiana, 8. Total, 66.

XII. Dakota, 6; Minnesota, 8; North Dakota, 6; Northern Minnesota, 8; Northern Swedish, 2; West Wisconsin, 8; Wisconsin, 8. Total, 46. [Black Hills Mission, Wyoming Mission.]

XIII. California German, 2; Central German, 6; Chicago German, 4; East German, 2; North Germany, 4; Northern German, 2; Northwest German, 2; Pacific German, 2; Saint Louis German, 4; South Germany, 4; Southern German, 2; Switzerland, 2; West German, 4. Total, 40.

XIV. California, 12; Chile, 2; Colorado, 8; Eastern South America, 2; Foochow, 4; Hinghwa, 2; Korea, 2; Mexico, 2; North China, 2; Southern California, 12. Total, 48. [Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico English, New Mexico Spanish, Pacific Chinese, Pacific Japanese, and Utah Missions.]

XV. Bengal, 2; Bombay, 2; Columbia River, 8; Idaho, 4; Malaysia, 2; Montana, 2; North India, 4; North Montana, 2; Northwest India, 4; Oregon, 6; Philippine Islands, 2; Puget Sound, 8; South India, 2; Western Norwegian-Danish, 2. Total, 50. [Alaska Mission.]

CHAPTER IV

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS

¶ 539. Examination of Annual Conference Journals

The examination of Annual Conference Journals by the General Conference shall be upon the following points:

§ 1. The Journal shall be a copy of the record of the regular proceedings of the Conference.

§ 2. It shall have a title page and shall be signed by the President and Secretary of each Session.

§ 3. The Journal must be either in manuscript or printed and substantially bound; if the latter, in quadrennial volumes.

§ 4. The Conference Roll shall be given.

§ 5. Reports of Committees shall be given.

§ 6. The Reports of the Statistician and of the Conference Treasurer shall be given.

§ 7. The Appointments shall be given.

§ 8. If printed and bound, there should be the Secretary's Certificate that the volume is a complete and correct record of the proceedings, and that it was adopted by the Conference as its Official Record.

§ 9. There shall be proper headings of pages, marginal indexes or subheads, and clearness and accuracy of statement of the business transacted.

§ 10. Chirography, orthography, and the neat, businesslike appearance of the page should be noted; also erasures, interlineations, and pastings.

§ 11. Separate items of business shall be placed in separate paragraphs.

§ 12. The Journal shall state where the sessions were held, the names of makers of motions, and the findings of committees of trials. (The Disciplinary Questions shall

be properly noted, together with their answers; also the action on each motion, and the decisions of the Bishop on questions of law.

§ 13. Any action adverse to the polity, the unity, or the purity of the Church should be carefully noted.

§ 14. The Annual Conference Secretaries shall prepare their Conference Records in view of such examination.

§ 15. The Committee on Itinerancy, after examination of the Journals, shall return them to the respective delegations.—*Journal, General Conference.*

¶ 540. Report on Conference Journals

Your Committee on Itinerancy, to which was assigned the duty of examining the Journals of the Annual and Mission Conferences, and Missions, reports as follows:

§ 1. The Conferences whose records are found to be correct, complying with all the requirements of the Discipline, are: Arkansas, Austin, Baltimore, Bengal, California, Central Alabama, Central China, Central German, Central Illinois, Central Missouri, Central New York, Central Ohio, Central Pennsylvania, Central Swedish, Central Tennessee, Chicago German, Chile, Cincinnati, Colorado, Columbia River, Dakota, Delaware, Des Moines, Detroit, East German, East Maine, East Ohio, Erie, Genesee, Gulf, Hingwa, Holston, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Korea, Lexington, Liberia, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New England, New England Southern, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, New York East, Newark, North Carolina, North Germany, North Indiana, North Montana, North Ohio, Northern German, Northern Minnesota, Northern New York, Northern Swedish, Northwest German, Northwest India, Northwest Indiana, Northwest Iowa, Northwest Kansas, Northwest Nebraska, Norway, Norwegian and Danish, Oklahoma, Oregon,

Pacific German, Philadelphia, Philippine Islands, Pittsburgh, Puget Sound, Rock River, Saint Louis German, South Carolina, South Kansas, Southern California, Southern Illinois, Southwest Kansas, Sweden, Switzerland, Troy, Vermont, Washington, West German, West Nebraska, West Virginia, Western Norwegian-Danish, Western Swedish, Wilmington, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

§ 2. The following Conference Journals were found to be defective in the requirements of the Discipline (¶ 539) on the points as specified by the numbers: Alabama, 2, 8; Atlanta, 3; Blue Ridge, 2, 8, 9; Bombay, 8; California German, 8; Denmark, 8; East Tennessee, 8; Eastern South America, 8; Eastern Swedish, 2, 3; Finland, 8; Florida, 2, 3, 8, 12; Foochow, 12; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 8; Malaysia, 8; Mexico, 8; Nebraska, 2, 10; North China, 5; North Dakota, 8, 12; North India, 2; North Nebraska, 2, 10; Ohio, 8; Saint Johns River, 2, 8; Saint Louis, 2; South India, 2; Southern German, 3, 8; Texas, 8, 9; Upper Iowa, 2, 8; Upper Mississippi, 8; West Texas, 8, 9, 11, 12; West Wisconsin, 12.

§ 3. The Journal of the following Conference was incomplete: Savannah, three years missing.

§ 4. The Journals of the following Conferences were not presented: Louisiana, South Germany, Tennessee.

§ 5. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are correct: Atlantic, Black Hills, Burma, Central Conference of Southern Asia, Central Conference of Europe, Central Provinces of India, North Andes, East Central Africa, Finland and Saint Petersburg, North Africa, Porto Rico.

§ 6. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are defective: Arizona, 8; Bulgaria, 8, 9; France, 6, 8; Hawaii, 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12 (only one session); New Mexico Spanish, 8; North Andes, 8; Pacific Swedish, 8; Pacific Japanese, 8; Russia, 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12; West China, 3, 4, 8; Wyoming, 8.

§ 7. The Journals of the following Missions did not appear: Alaska, Central China, Chinese, Nevada, Utah.

¶ 541. Report of the General Conference Treasurer

OSCAR P. MILLER, TREASURER, ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA

In account with

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXPENSE FUND, 1912

RECEIPTS

January 21, 1910

To balance on hand at beginning of quadrennium... \$13,983 60

To amount collected, as per Exhibit A... 153,075 76

To interest collected, as per Exhibit B... 5,260 56

To amount refunded by delegates... 385 20

\$172,705 12

DISBURSEMENTS

By amount paid expense General Conference Com-
missions, Exhibit "C" 332,639 59

By amount paid General Conference Delegates, "D" 115,148 54

July 10, 1912

By balance on hand... 24,916 99

\$172,705 12

Estimated unpaid expenses of last General Conference \$5,000 00

OSCAR P. MILLER, Treasurer,
General Conference Commission.

EXHIBIT "C"

By expense of Judicial Conferences... \$1,011 30

By expense of Federal Council of Churches of Christ 11,000 00

By expense of General Conference Commission... 1,524 66

By expense of Commission on Judicial Procedure... 611 49

By expense of Ecumenical Commission... 2,308 47

By expense of Commission on Federation... 1,161 98

By expense of Fraternal Delegates... 1,074 41

By expense of General Conference Secretary... 1,354 96

By expense of Commission on the Reduction of the
Size of the General Conference... 974 93

By expense of Commission on Japanese Methodism 11 00

By expenses of treasurer, assistant treasurer, clerks,
rent, furniture, and office... 9,700 00

By postage, stationery, etc., for treasurer's office... 363 85

By expense of Publicity Committee... 354 65

By expense of stenographic work and clerk hire at
General Conference... 342 83

By expense, meals for tellers... 168 25

By expense, badges... 234 50

By amount paid Jennings & Graham, 3,000 "Dele-
gate Companions" 347 50

By expense of use of typewriters, printing, telegrams,
etc., at General Conference... 64 81

By amount refunded to Saint Louis District, Saint
Louis Conference... 30 00

\$32,639 59

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EXHIBIT "D"

By railroad fare, Delegates in America.....	\$26 638 33
By sleeping car fare, Delegates in America.....	6,955 96
By meals en route, Delegates in America.....	5,744 82
By hotel bills in Minneapolis, Delegates in America.....	42,852 50
	<hr/>
	\$82,191 61

Expenses of 57 Foreign Delegates and 7 Missionary

Bishops:

By railroad fare and meals in foreign countries.....	\$1,368 02
By steamship tickets, gratuities, etc.....	21,988 29
By railroad fare in America.....	3,412 80
By sleeping car fares in America.....	1,022 12
By meals en route in America.....	1,342 20
By hotel bills in America.....	3,823 50
	<hr/>
	32,956 93
	<hr/>
	\$115,148 54

For detailed account of receipts by Annual Conferences and Districts, see *Daily Advocate*; also General Conference Journal.

¶ 542. Contiguous and Continuous Episcopal Supervision

§ 1. In the intervals of the Annual Conference sessions each resident Bishop shall be held responsible for the administration of the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church within those Conferences adjacent to his residence. Thirty days after the adjournment of an Annual Conference the presidency of the Conference shall pass to the Bishop resident in the group of which it forms a part, and shall so remain until thirty days before the session of the next ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 2. In order to secure detailed and comprehensive knowledge of the activities, achievements, and needs of the entire Connection, each Bishop is requested to make quadrennially a written report of his administration of the group over which he exercises residential supervision, these reports to be presented to the General Conference and printed in the General Conference Handbook and Journal.

§ 3. For the purpose of securing more economical and efficient presidential administration the Board of Bishops shall arrange the Conferences in America in three Divisions and shall assign each Bishop for presidential administration to the Annual Conferences of the Division within which he has his official residence.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 543. Plan of Residential Episcopal Supervision by Divisions and Groups

The arrangement of the Annual Conferences for Residential Supervision, made by the Board of Bishops in accordance with ¶ 542, § 3, is as follows:

§ 1. EASTERN DIVISION

Boston, BISHOP HAMILTON—New England, New England Southern, East Maine, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont Conferences.

New York, BISHOP WILSON—New York, New York East, Newark, Troy, East German, and Eastern Swedish Conferences.

Philadelphia, BISHOP BERRY—Philadelphia, Wilmington, New Jersey, Wyoming, and Delaware Conferences, and the Porto Rico Mission.

Washington, BISHOP CRANSTON—Baltimore, West Virginia, Pittsburgh, Central Pennsylvania, and Washington Conferences.

Chattanooga, BISHOP HENDERSON—Holston, Central Tennessee, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, East Tennessee, Tennessee, and North Carolina Conferences.

Atlanta, BISHOP LEETE—Georgia, Alabama, Saint Johns River, Atlanta, Florida, Savannah, and South Carolina Conferences, and the South Florida Mission.

§ 2. CENTRAL DIVISION

Chicago, BISHOP McDOWELL—Rock River, Central Illinois, Illinois, Northwest Indiana, North Indiana, Chicago German, and Central Swedish Conferences.

Buffalo, BISHOP BURT—Genesee, Northern New York, Central New York, Erie, Detroit, and Michigan Conferences.

Cincinnati, BISHOP ANDERSON—Cincinnati, Ohio, Central Ohio, North-East Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Central German, and Lexington Conferences.

Saint Louis, BISHOP SMITH—Saint Louis, Missouri, Southern Illinois, Arkansas, Saint Louis German, Central Missouri, and Little Rock Conferences.

Saint Paul, BISHOP QUAYLE—Minnesota, Northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Norwegian and Danish, Northern Swedish, and Northern German Conferences.

New Orleans, BISHOP THIRKIELD—Gulf, Louisiana, Mississippi, Upper Mississippi, and Central Alabama Conferences.

§ 3. WESTERN DIVISION

San Francisco, BISHOP HUGHES—California, Southern California, and California German Conferences, the Arizona, Hawaii, Pacific Japanese, and Pacific Chinese Missions, and the Pacific Swedish Mission Conference (in part).

Portland, BISHOP COOKE—Oregon, Puget Sound, Columbia River, Pacific German, and Western Norwegian-Danish Conferences, the Alaska Mission, and the Pacific Swedish Mission Conference (in part).

Denver, BISHOP MCCONNELL—Colorado Conference, the Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico English Missions, and the New Mexico Spanish Mission Conference.

Helena, BISHOP LUCCOCK—Montana, North Montana, North Dakota, Dakota, and Idaho Conferences, and the Black Hills Mission.

Omaha, BISHOP BRISTOL—Nebraska, North Nebraska, West Nebraska, Northwest Nebraska, Des Moines, Northwest Iowa, Upper Iowa, Iowa, and Northwest German Conferences.

Kansas City, BISHOP SHEPARD—Kansas, South Kan-

sas, Northwest Kansas, Southwest Kansas, and West German Conferences.

Oklahoma City, BISHOP MCINTYRE—Oklahoma, Southern German, Mexico, Texas, West Texas, and Lincoln Conferences.

¶ 544. Commission on Finance

§ 1. There shall be a Commission on Finance, whose purpose it shall be to coöperate with the several Benevolent Boards of the Church, as hereinafter provided. The Commission on Finance shall consist of three Bishops, six ministers, and six laymen, to be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference, and the Corresponding Secretaries and Assistant Corresponding Secretaries of the Benevolent Boards. Each Board shall be entitled to but one vote in the Commission on Finance.

§ 2. Vacancies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled by the Board of Bishops. The members of the Commission shall serve without pay, save for traveling and hotel expenses and necessary clerk hire. The expenses of the Commission shall be levied upon the several Boards according to the amount of each Board's askings.

§ 3. Each Benevolent Board, through its representatives, shall submit to the Commission on Finance a full statement of its needs and askings, and said Commission shall have power to revise the askings of the several Boards, provided that no work already begun or planned by any Board shall be jeopardized by such revision.

§ 4. The decision of the Commission on Finance shall be upon the basis of present and probable future needs, and not upon the basis of former askings or percentages. When the askings have been determined the Commission shall make an equitable apportionment of the same to the Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions, together with a statement of the amount asked

¶ 545 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

for each Board. The Commission may make its apportionments directly to the districts and charges.

§ 5. The Commission shall advise and coöperate with the several Benevolent Boards in promoting the unity and efficiency of their financial plans, and is empowered to present to the General Conference such plans as it may deem necessary for the better correlation and the more effective administration of the benevolent work of the Church.

§ 6. The General Conference recommends that each Annual Conference, Mission Conference, and Mission create a committee or commission to consider such non-connectional causes as may desire to appeal to the churches of said Conferences and Missions for financial aid. It is advised that no cause be admitted to the pulpits of our churches for presentation and financial appeal, unless recommended by such Annual Conference Commission.

§ 7. The Commission on Finance is instructed to take such action as may be necessary to secure the organization and proper direction of the Conference Commissions, and, in coöperation with the several Boards, to adopt such measures as may be necessary to secure the assistance of the District Superintendents and pastors in properly protecting our churches and official benevolences from the multiplicity of nonofficial appeals.

CHAPTER V

GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

¶ 545. Testimony

§ 1. Questions relating to the admissibility of evidence are Questions of Law.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 127.

§ 2. Documentary Evidence need not be spread on the Journal, but should be filed and preserved by the Secretary.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 129.

¶ 546. Irregular Proceedings

§ 1. When an Annual Conference decides that a Preacher in Charge has received or expelled a member contrary to the Discipline the decision does not exclude the member so received, but restores the member so expelled.—*Journal*, 1852, p. 73, and *Journal*, 1860, p. 297.

§ 2. When the Annual Conference decides that a member of the Church has been expelled contrary to the Discipline, such act of the Conference does not restore him to good standing in the Church, but simply restores him to membership in the Church; and when so restored he is placed in the position he occupied before he was tried—that is, he is an accused member; and hence the Preacher is not at liberty to give him a Certificate of Membership.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 3. Irregularity in the reception of a member is not a bar to trial.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 4. If an expelled member shall gain membership elsewhere without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation, his membership is null and void, and any Certificate of such membership should not be received.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 378.

¶ 547. Appeals

§ 1. When an expelled member has by neglect or otherwise forfeited his right to Appeal, a subsequent Quarterly Conference may not hear his Appeal.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 2. If a Member of an Annual Conference should die pending his Appeal to a Judicial Conference, his death shall not affect the Appeal, which may still be prosecuted by his heirs or legal representatives.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 375.

¶ 548. Members of Annual Conferences

§ 1. Every effective Preacher is entitled to an appointment within the Conference of which he is a mem-

¶ 549 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

ber. His transfer to another Conference carries with it this right, and therefore should not be made without at the same time making adequate provision in a regular manner for his protection. Nevertheless, if a Preacher requests such a transfer to a Conference not to meet for some time after his transfer, he cannot complain if he does not receive work till the next ensuing session of the Conference after such transfer.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

§ 2. An action of the General Conference changing the boundaries of an Annual Conference does not of itself affect the Membership of Supernumerary and Retired Ministers, their Membership remaining as before such action until adjusted by mutual agreement of the Conferences affected by such change of boundaries.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 374.

§ 3. Absentees from the session of an Annual Conference may not vote in the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor upon proposed amendments to the Constitution.—*Journal*, 1896, p. 274.

¶ 549. Orders

§ 1. The question of electing to Orders a Preacher who has not passed an examination on the Course of Study prescribed for Preachers applying for Orders may not be submitted to a vote of the Conference. A Bishop may not submit to the vote of an Annual Conference the question of obedience to a law of the Church.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The Orders of a Roman Catholic Priest may not be recognized by an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 373.

¶ 550. Licensing and Ordaining Women

§ 1. The Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church does not provide for, nor contemplate the licensing of

women as Local Preachers; and therefore the action of a Quarterly Conference, and of a District Superintendent as the President thereof, in granting such license is without the authority of law, is not in accordance with the Discipline as it is, and with the uniform administration under it.—*Journal*, 1880, pp. 353, 354.

§ 2. The law of the Church does not authorize the ordination of women to the Ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and a Bishop is not at liberty to submit to the vote of the Conference the question of electing women to Orders.—*Journal*, 1880, p. 353.

§ 3. The General Conference judges it inexpedient to take any action on the subject of licensing women to exhort or to preach; and that it is also inexpedient to take any action on the subject of ordaining women to the Ministry.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 317.

¶ 551. Quarterly Conferences

§ 1. The Quarterly Conference may remove Trustees at any time for cause, where the statutes of the State do not prevent.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

§ 2. Supernumerary and Retired Ministers residing out of the bounds of their Annual Conference are members of the Quarterly Conferences where they reside, and are entitled to vote therein.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

¶ 552. Annual Conferences Continuous

§ 1. Individual members come in and go out, but the Conference itself continues. It may adopt rules for its government and Rules of Order for its Annual Sessions, the same to continue at its pleasure and to be amended or repealed as it may provide. In short, it is a permanent body.—*Journal*, 1904.

¶ 553 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

§ 2. The status of an Annual Conference is not affected by the fact that its membership falls below the number required by the Constitution for the organization of an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1904.

¶ 553. Consolidation of Churches

§ 1. The Bishops have full power under the law and usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church to consolidate Churches and appoint one Pastor for the united Congregation.

In so doing they exercise an authority which from the beginning of our distinct Church life has been held to be resident in the Bishop presiding in an Annual Conference by virtue of his power to "fix the appointments of the Preachers."—*Journal*, 1900, p. 422.

§ 2. When two charges, supplied for the time being by the same preacher, retain their separate organizations, each charge is entitled to elect its own delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 554. Negotiations Between Preachers and People

Direct negotiations between Pastors and Churches in advance of the making of the appointments by the Bishops are contrary to the spirit of our itinerant ministry and subversive of our ecclesiastical polity, and as such should be discouraged by our Bishops, Pastors, and people.—*Journals*, 1884 and 1912.

¶ 555. Union with Other Churches

Whenever any Synod, Conference, Church Society, or other body of Christians, agreeing in doctrine with the Methodist Episcopal Church, shall desire to become a component part of said Church, the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church most nearly or con-

veniently related, territorially, to such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body, shall have power, with the consent of the Bishop presiding, on being satisfied with the agreement of such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body of Christians with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Doctrine and Discipline, to receive such organization in a body into our communion. Ministers so received shall hold such relations and enjoy such privileges as they would hold or enjoy if admitted individually on their credentials. Members so received shall sustain the same relation to the local Church as they would sustain if received individually by certificates. Before such reception, however, a properly authenticated register of such ministers and members shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Conference considering such reception. In all cases of the reception of Churches, satisfactory assurance shall be given to the Conference that the property shall be placed in the custody of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that the Churches will receive pastors appointed by the authority of the General Conference of the Church.—*Journal*, 1896, p. 308.

¶ 556. Pro Rata Distribution of Ministerial Support

The law of the Church in regard to the *pro rata* division of the amounts raised for ministerial support is binding, and it is incumbent on the Pastors and District Superintendents to see that such *pro rata* division be made.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 557. Complaints and Charges

§ 1. The question, "Are there any Complaints?" does not refer to Members of Annual Conferences, but refers (1) to charges of crime brought against Preachers on Trial in the Annual Conference; (2) to complaints made against the moral or official conduct of Local Preachers;

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and (3) to complaints made against the official conduct of members of the Quarterly Conference other than those named above.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The dismissal of a preliminary complaint is not a bar to a new complaint.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

CHAPTER VI

GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

¶ 558. Week of Prayer

The General Conference regards the annual observance of the Week of Prayer in concert with the Christian people of other denominations as highly salutary; as an appropriate recognition of the unity of the Church; as a suitable expression of faith in the efficacy of prayer; and as well calculated to promote the spirituality, activity, and prosperity of the Church of Christ.—*Journal*, 1872.

¶ 559. Day of Prayer for Colleges

The Thursday preceding the second Sunday in February shall be observed as the Day of Prayer for Colleges in all Methodist institutions, on which special effort should be made to present the claims of Christ in an effective manner to the heart and conscience of every student.

We recommend that pastors in their prayers especially remember our institutions of learning, their faculties and students, that prosperity and spiritual blessing may attend them.

¶ 560. Temperance and Prohibition

We gratefully acknowledge the blessing of God upon our temperance endeavors and rejoice over the increasing coöperation and unity of effort among temperance workers. The progress of the past four years strengthens our

GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS ¶ 560

conviction, increases our zeal, and renews our faith for the greater and final struggle yet to come.

1. *Personal Abstinence*

We declare our conviction that total abstinence from intoxicating beverages and narcotics is the plain duty of all our people of every clime and country.

2. *The License Policy*

The liquor traffic "cannot be legalized without sin." We condemn the license policy. It is vicious in principle, utterly inconsistent with the purposes of enlightened government, and in practice a protection to a traffic which is inherently criminal in its nature.

3. *Prohibition*

We stand for the speediest possible suppression of the beverage liquor traffic. Under that divine law of absolute right, which is the source of all human law, the only proper attitude of civil government toward anything so harmful as the liquor traffic, is that of absolute prohibition; and we recommend that our people participate in every wise movement for local prohibition as a step toward State and national prohibition.

4. *Attitude of the Federal Government*

We memorialize Congress to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia, in Alaska, in our island possessions, and in all territory under the control of the federal government; and we urge that it discontinue issuing internal revenue liquor tax receipts to any who cannot show State authority to engage in such traffic.

We highly commend the action of Congress in refusing to restore the sale of intoxicating liquors at army posts and for continuing the prohibition of such sale at government Soldiers' Homes; but we deprecate as entirely inexcusable the action of some army officers in disregarding the provisions of the anti-canteen law and urge

the special obligation of the soldier trained, educated, and maintained at government expense to obey the express mandates of that government, and we call on the President and Secretary of War to enforce this law.

5. *Temperance Instruction and the Pledge*

We urge upon Pastors, Sunday School Superintendents, teachers, and all leaders and teachers of our young people the importance of emphasizing the value of total abstinence from the use of alcoholic liquors and narcotics in any form. To this end we urge the most vigorous and constant prosecution of pledge-signing work through our Sunday Schools, Epworth Leagues, Junior Leagues and other young people's societies.

We rejoice that scientific temperance instruction in the public schools is not only growing in public favor, but is being given in a more interesting and practical manner.

6. *The Church Temperance Society*

We congratulate the Church Temperance Society upon the increased zeal and efficiency evidenced during the last quadrennium, and pledge it our loyal support. While giving the fullest coöperation to all wisely directed movements against the liquor traffic, its own peculiar sphere should be the securing of total-abstinence pledges, the publishing and distribution of literature, the inculcation of temperance and prohibition principles and knowledge and the creation of temperance sentiment among Sunday Schools, Epworth Leagues, Junior Leagues, and our people generally; leaving the securing of legislation and the enforcement of laws, where possible, to other temperance movements better adapted for the rendition of effective service of that character.

7. *The Woman's Christian Temperance Union*

Formed under the guiding genius of one of Methodism's most illustrious women, the Woman's Christian Temper-

ance Union has for years been the devoted and efficient champion of both total abstinence and prohibition. We commend it to the confidence and coöperation of our people with affectionate appreciation.

8. *The Anti-Saloon League*

Since no denomination alone can adequately secure legislation or compel the enforcement of law, we recognize the fact that the churches throughout the United States are already winning victories in this field through the Anti-Saloon League movement and are contributing large sums of money for its maintenance. Therefore we indorse the Anti-Saloon League of America as a safe and effective agency through which the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church may coöperate with members of other churches and temperance organizations for united and vigorous action against the saloon, and we call upon our churches and pastors to continue increasingly their coöperation in carrying forward its work.

9. *Political Action*

We recognize that the Church as an ecclesiastical body may not properly go into partisan politics nor assume to control the franchise of the citizen, yet we maintain that the time has come when the responsibility rests upon every Christian voter not only to oppose the saloon as a matter of abstract principle, but to cast his ballot in the manner which will be most effective against the saloon and will tend soonest to put the liquor traffic in "the course of ultimate extinction."

We record our deliberate judgment that no candidate for any office which in any way may have to do with the liquor traffic has a right to expect, nor ought he to receive, the support of Christian citizens so long as he stands committed to the liquor interests or refuses to put himself in accord with a crystallized public sentiment for the overthrow of the liquor traffic.

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¶ 561. Hospitals

In order that the hospitals of the Church may fulfill their mission, not only in healing the sick by the aid of skillful physicians and competent nurses, but in building up the Kingdom of God, the closest reciprocal relations should exist between them and the Conferences. Our hospitals should be ready always to receive the sick poor recommended by pastors, under proper rules and regulations, not as charity patients, but as guests of the Church.

Each Annual Conference, by formal vote, should become the patron of at least one of our Church hospitals and should contribute to its support. Our Church hospitals should make ample provision for the spiritual welfare of patients, nurses, and employees, by the employment of a pastor, deaconess, or other Christian worker, to give special attention to those in need of spiritual help, and by holding stated services and providing for the administration of the sacraments.

We recommend that no hospital shall be established hereafter without the approval of the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is to be located, and that hospital property shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Board of Managers of each hospital, through the Superintendent or other representative, shall render a report to patronizing Conferences at their annual session, which report shall also be printed in the annual report of the hospital, as follows: (1) Value of property. (2) Debt upon the property. (3) Amount of endowment. (4) Amount of productive endowment. (5) Income from endowment. (6) Voluntary gifts of individuals. (7) Income from private patients. (8) Income from ward patients. (9) Number of beds. (10) Income from other sources. (11) Total days' treatment given in wards and rooms, not counting dispensary patients. (12) Free patients, days' treatment. (13) Pay ward patients, days' treatment. (14) Private patients,

days' treatment. (15) Individual dispensary patients treated. (16) Revisits of dispensary patients.

¶ 562. Federation

We reaffirm the declaration of the General Conference of 1908 and most cordially invite the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Methodist Protestant Church, and other branches of Methodism to join with the Methodist Episcopal Church in a consecrated, persistent effort to unify the various branches of the Wesleyan family of Churches in America into one great Methodist Church.

We recommend that a Commission on Federation, constituted as before and appointed by the Bishops, shall be named, with full power and authority to continue negotiations and to treat with similar Commissions from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Methodist Protestant Church, and any and all other duly appointed Commissions from other Churches or branches of Methodism, or with each separately, concerning the commendable purposes of advancing organic union or closer federation. Said Commission to report to the next General Conference.

¶ 563. Federal Council with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South

The General Conference of 1908 provided for the formation of a Federal Council as "a practical method of putting Federation into operation." The Federation Commissions of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, adopted the following recommendation to their respective General Conferences relating to the powers of the proposed Federal Council; a recommendation which received the approval of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1910, and of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1912, as follows:

¶ 561 GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

¶ 561. Hospitals

In order that the hospitals of the Church may fulfill their mission, not only in healing the sick by the aid of skillful physicians and competent nurses, but in building up the Kingdom of God, the closest reciprocal relations should exist between them and the Conferences. Our hospitals should be ready always to receive the sick poor recommended by pastors, under proper rules and regulations, not as charity patients, but as guests of the Church.

Each Annual Conference, by formal vote, should become the patron of at least one of our Church hospitals and should contribute to its support. Our Church hospitals should make ample provision for the spiritual welfare of patients, nurses, and employees, by the employment of a pastor, deaconess, or other Christian worker, to give special attention to those in need of spiritual help, and by holding stated services and providing for the administration of the sacraments.

We recommend that no hospital shall be established hereafter without the approval of the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is to be located, and that hospital property shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Board of Managers of each hospital, through the Superintendent or other representative, shall render a report to patronizing Conferences at their annual session, which report shall also be printed in the annual report of the hospital, as follows: (1) Value of property. (2) Debt upon the property. (3) Amount of endowment. (4) Amount of productive endowment. (5) Income from endowment. (6) Voluntary gifts of individuals. (7) Income from private patients. (8) Income from ward patients. (9) Number of beds. (10) Income from other sources. (11) Total days' treatment given in wards and rooms, not counting dispensary patients. (12) Free patients, days' treatment. (13) Pay ward patients, days' treatment. (14) Private patients,

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We recommend that a Commission on Federation, constituted as before and appointed by the Bishops, shall be named, with full power and authority to continue negotiations and to treat with similar Commissions from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Methodist Protestant Church, and any and all other duly appointed Commissions from other Churches or branches of Methodism, or with each separately, concerning the commendable purposes of advancing organic union or closer federation. Said Commission to report to the next General Conference.

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¶ 564 GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

We recommend the creation of a Federal Council for the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; said Federal Council to be intrusted with advisory powers in regard to world-wide missions, Christian education, and the evangelization of the unchurched masses; and also to have full power to hear and determine finally, without appeal from its decisions, all cases of conflict or misunderstandings between the two branches of Methodism.

The Federal Council shall consist of eighteen members, equally divided between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the membership of the Council being as follows: Six Bishops, six Traveling Preachers, and six Laymen.

The General Conference authorizes the members of the Commission on Federation to represent it as members of the Federal Council for this quadrennium, and that general administrative officers and administrative officers of Annual Conferences and of various Church Boards, organizations, and societies carefully regard the decisions and recommendations of the Federal Council.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 564. The Church and Social Problems

The Methodist Episcopal Church stands for equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life; for the protection of the family, by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulation of marriage, and proper housing; for such regulation of the conditions of toil for women as shall safeguard the physical and moral habits of the community; and for the fullest possible development of every child, especially by the provision of proper education and recreation, and by the abolition of child labor.

It stands for the abatement and prevention of poverty, by the protection of the individual and of society from the social, economic, and moral waste of the liquor

traffic, by the conservation of health and by the protection of the worker from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases and injuries.

It stands for the right of all men to the opportunity for self-maintenance, safeguarding this right against encroachments of every kind; and for the protection of workers from the hardships of enforced employment.

It stands for suitable provision for the workers in old age and for those incapacitated by injury; for the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes, and for a release from employment one day in seven.

It stands for the gradual and reasonable reduction of the hours of labor to the lowest practicable point, and for that degree of leisure for all which is a condition of the highest human life; for a living wage as a minimum in every industry and for the highest wage that each industry can afford, and for the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised.

In its capacity as employer the Church should set Christian standards as to hours and wages, provision for sickness and old age, and in developing the principle of coöperation and profit-sharing. Relations with employees should be in harmony with the utterances of the General Conference.

Our ministers and people should know the literature of social Christianity, should study their communities and minister to every group in them.

Students in theological schools should be instructed in practical Sociology, and in the elements of Political Economy, in the social content of the Scriptures, in the methods and principles of Social Service, in the ethical and religious aspect of modern social movements and industrial organization.

Every Methodist educational institution should attempt to give its students the knowledge and the spirit to qualify and lead them to engage in Social Service in their community, and our Sunday School and Epworth League

literature should include the interpretation and application of social duties.

In the social crisis now confronting Christianity, the urgent need and duty of the Church is to develop an evangelism which shall recognize the possibility and imperative necessity of accomplishing the regeneration of communities as well as of persons; whose goal shall be the perfection of both society and the individual.

We recognize the Methodist Federation for Social Service as an agency to rally the forces of the Church in support of approved measures, and recommend that three Bishops be appointed upon the Council of the Federation.

CHAPTER VII

FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS

¶ 565, § 1. Constitution for a Sunday School

ARTICLE I. This School shall be called the Sunday School of, auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and connected with the Quarterly Conference of It shall consist of the Preacher in Charge, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Officers, the Teachers, and the Pupils.

ARTICLE II. The object of this School shall be the promotion of Christian character through the devout and diligent study of the Word of God.

ARTICLE III. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* chairman, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, the Assistant Superintendents, the heads of departments, the duly elected Secretaries, Treasurer, and Librarians, the Teachers of the School, the Assistant Teachers nominated and elected in the same way as the

Teachers, the President of the Sunday School Missionary Society, the President of the Sunday School Temperance Society, and the Home Department Visitors, who shall be elected in the same way as the Teachers. In case of withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they shall cease to be members of the Board.

ARTICLE IV. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its next session after such election. In case of a vacancy the Preacher in Charge shall superintend, or secure the superintending of, the School, until such time as the Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually, by ballot, by the Local Sunday School Board on The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and elected annually by the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE V. Regular meetings of this Board shall be held on the of each month, for the transaction of such business as relates to the interest of the School, at which the following order shall be observed: 1. Singing and prayer. 2. Calling roll. 3. Reading minutes. 4. Unfinished business. 5. Reports from Committees. 6. Reports from Superintendents. 7. Report from Treasurer. 8. Report from Librarian concerning the state of the Library and the number and kind of periodicals taken by the School. 9. Reports from the Pastor and from the Sunday School Committee. 10. Reports from the Teachers. 11. Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE VI. At all meetings for business shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Pastor, the Superintendent, or by any three of the members.

ARTICLE VIII. In case of the withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they cease to be members of

this Board; and the place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglecting his or her duty, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two thirds of the Board present at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

ARTICLE IX. Vacancies in offices may be filled at any monthly or special meeting; one month's notice having been given of the election.

ARTICLE X. This Constitution shall not be altered except by two thirds of all the members present at a meeting called for that purpose; and such alterations must be in harmony with the provisions of the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Journal*.

§ 2. Constitution for a Sunday School Missionary Society

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday School, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE II. The object of this Society shall be to promote in all practical ways the interests of the Missionary cause within the bounds of this School.

ARTICLE III. All the members of this School shall be members of the Society.

ARTICLE IV. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall together constitute a Board of Managers, to be elected annually by the Sunday School Board on the of

ARTICLE V. A part of the session of the School on the first Sunday of every month shall be set apart for Mis-

sionary exercises and the reception of gifts for the cause of Missions; and it shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to provide for such exercises, varying the program from month to month in such a way as to engage actively as many of the School as possible in acquiring and supplying information and inspiration on Missionary topics. The Managers shall also devise and set in vigorous operation whatever schemes they can, such as mite-boxes, collection cards, occasional Missionary concerts, or sales, etc., for increasing the Missionary contributions of the School.

ARTICLE VI. The President shall preside during that part of the school time which is devoted to Missions; the Secretary shall read at each monthly meeting a report of the previous meeting. The Treasurer shall receive the funds raised by the Society and pay them as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent to the Board of Sunday Schools. The President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall make a semiannual report to the Society on the first Sundays of April and October.

ARTICLE VII. Vacancies in the offices may be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE VIII. This Constitution shall not be altered except by vote of two thirds of all the members of the Local Sunday School Board, at a meeting called for that purpose.

¶ 566. Charges

§ 1. In drafting charges and specifications for the trial of an accused member of the Church there should be a brief statement, defining the offense by its generic name, such as "Defamation," "Dishonesty," "Lying," "Imprudent Conduct," "Indulging Sinful Tempers or Words," "Disobedience to the Order and Discipline of the Church,"

"Neglecting Prayer Meetings," "Neglecting Class Meetings," etc. Each charge should be accompanied with one or more specifications germane to the charge; and the following forms may serve to illustrate the manner of preparing charges and specifications. The charges and specifications must be so varied in the several cases as to meet the facts or evidence relied upon for conviction. The bill of charges should be signed by one or more members of the Church, and must be addressed to the Preacher in Charge of the Circuit or Station in which the accused person holds his membership.

§ 2. IMMORAL CONDUCT

FORM NO. I

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: The undersigned, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, complains to you that C. D., a member of the same Church, has been guilty of Immoral Conduct, and he is hereby charged therewith as follows:

CHARGE: DEFAMATION

Specification 1. The said C. D., on the day of , 19 , at , did write and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following false and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the writing complained of.*)

Specification 2. The said C. D., on the day of , 19 , at , did utter and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following defamatory and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the matter published.*)

Specification 3. The said C. D., on the day of , 19 , at , did, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, speak, utter, and publish, in the hearing of divers persons, the following false and slanderous words concerning E. F., that is to say, "He [meaning the said E. F.] is a thief." [Signed] M. N.

FORM No. II

[The address to the Preacher in Charge should be the same as in No. 1.]

CHARGE: LYING

Specification. The said C. D., on the day of, 19....., at, did, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, falsely and willfully say (*here insert what was said*), or words to that effect, knowing the statement to be misleading and false. [Signed] M. N.

§ 3. IMPRUDENT AND UNCHRISTIAN CONDUCT

In this class of cases preliminary labor is required before the accused person is liable to be arraigned and tried, and it should be averred in the complaint that such preliminary labor has been performed, for without such averment there is nothing to show that the person is liable to be tried. The following form may be used:

FORM No. III

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, indulged sinful tempers, and was afterward reprov'd, as the Discipline provides; yet the said C. D. was guilty of a second transgression, and he was again reprov'd as the Discipline provides; yet, notwithstanding these repeated reproofs, the said C. D. continues impenitent and still persists in indulging sinful tempers, thereby bringing reproach upon the Church; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of the said C. D., and charges him as follows:

CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

Specification. The said C. D., on the day of, 19....., at, and at other times and places, namely (*here specify times and places*), did on three several

occasions become angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

FORM NO. IV

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Forasmuch as C. D., on the day of, 19, at, became angry and indulged sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, and, though reprov'd therefor after the manner prescribed in the Discipline, he made no acknowledgment of the fault, and showed no proper humiliation, and he still continues impenitent; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

Specification. C. D., on the day of, at, became angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline; and, notwithstanding he has been reprov'd on account thereof, as the Discipline provides, he has made no acknowledgment of the fault, and has shown no proper humiliation, but continues impenitent, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

4. NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE

FORM NO. V

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, had for a long time neglected public worship, and having so neglected was visited by the Preacher, who explained to him the consequences should he continue such neglect; and yet, notwithstanding such visit and explanation, he does not amend, but continues to neglect public worship, therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

CHARGE: HABITUAL NEGLECT OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Specification. The said C. D., unmindful of his duty, and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, does habitually neglect public worship. [Signed] M. N.

NOTE.—It is sufficient to charge the offense by its generic name, and under such charge the complaint may set forth in specifications as many instances of the offense as it may seem proper to insert, provided, always, the specification must sustain the charge. In preparing the charges and specifications care should be taken in setting out the offense so to describe it in each specification as that it shall embody the essential elements of the offense, that the accused may be apprised more certainly of the nature of the charge upon which he is to be arraigned and tried.

CHAPTER VIII

COURSES OF STUDY

I. In General

¶ 567, § 1. The General Conference earnestly recommends to all candidates for the Ministry of our Church that they complete a full collegiate course of study, and, if possible, a course in one of our Theological Schools, before applying for admission to an Annual Conference.

§ 2. No candidate shall be admitted to an Annual Conference on trial until he shall have completed a course of study equivalent to the University Senate requirements for admission to college, except under special conditions and then only by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference.

II. Certificates

¶ 568, § 1. Certificates from our regular Theological Seminaries, Universities, and Colleges approved by our University Senate may be accepted by the Conferences: provided, (1) that each certificate shall distinctly show that the student has been a regular attendant on the classroom instruction in the specified book; and (2) that he

has passed a thorough examination in the book, gaining a standing equivalent to that fixed in ¶ 569, § 5, it being understood that the Annual Conference shall examine all candidates in regard to their personal attitude toward the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church.

§ 2. Any Conference also, at its discretion, may accept similar certificates from the institutions above described, indicating like proficiency in any particular study, secured by the use of a different book or by lectures fully equivalent to the corresponding book in our Course of Study.

§ 3. Similar certificates in studies not biblical or theological may be accepted from other than Methodist Colleges, if of equal grade with those approved by our University Senate, and in American history from academies or seminaries either approved by our University Senate or of equal grade with those thus approved.

§ 4. A certificate of graduation from one of our regular Theological Seminaries may be accepted in place of an examination in all the biblical and theological studies of the various courses.

§ 5. A certificate of admission to, or graduation from any high school or academy of good standing may be accepted in place of an examination in "Elementary English Branches."

§ 6. All certificates shall state the time when the studies were pursued.

§ 7. A certificate for the purpose of recording the annual markings in the required studies for the entire course shall be issued to persons licensed to preach or received on trial.

III. Method of Conducting Conference Examinations

¶ 569, § 1. In each Annual Conference a Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the presiding Bishop, consisting of not less than eight nor more than twenty members, care being taken to select men with special qualifications for the work, to which shall be referred all

Preachers, both traveling and local, pursuing the Course of Study with a view to ordination or Conference membership. This Board shall be continued for a term of four years, subject to reappointment. Vacancies shall be filled by the Bishop at each session of the Annual Conference.

§ 2. This Board shall organize by electing one of its members Chairman and another Registrar, the latter to keep a permanent record of the standing of the students, and report to the Conference when required. This record shall include the credits allowed students for work done in Theological Seminaries and Colleges described in ¶ 568.

§ 3. The Chairman shall assign to each Examiner the books or subjects in which he is to give instruction by correspondence and final examination, for which examination he shall prepare and send to the Chairman printed or written questions, at least ten in number, two weeks before the time of examination. Vacancies occurring in the Board of Examiners during the year may be filled by the Chairman until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. One or two examinations may be held during the year in locations convenient to the students. These examinations shall be under the personal supervision of some member of the Board delegated by the Chairman.

§ 5. The examinations shall be in writing, if practicable, and in the presence of witnesses, and in that case the papers shall be sent for marking to the Examiners by whom the questions were prepared. In special cases the Chairman may appoint supervisors other than members of the Board before whom students may take their examinations, and such supervisors shall sign the papers and send them to the respective Examiners. The examinations shall be graded upon the scale of 100, and no examination graded below 70 per cent shall pass. The Examiners shall report promptly the marking of each paper to the Registrar.

§ 6. The provision for mid-year examinations shall not deprive any student of the opportunity of being examined at the seat and time of the Annual Conference.

§ 7. The Board of Examiners shall convene at the seat and time of the Annual Conference, the day before the session opens, to review and complete the work of the year, to examine any students who have not been examined during the year, and to arrange for the work of the year to come.

§ 8. Where alternative books or studies are offered, the Board of Conference Examiners shall determine which shall be required.

§ 9. Examinations held after July 1, 1913, shall be on the books prescribed by the Discipline of 1912, as follows:

FOR THE MINISTRY

ENGLISH COURSES

¶ 570. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

1. English Branches:

- (1) Elementary English.
- (2) Principles of Rhetoric.—*Hill*.
- (3) General History.—*Myers*.

2. The Worker and His Bible.—*Eiselen and Barclay*.

3. History and Exposition of the Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Wheeler*.

4. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1912.

5. Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester*.

6. Organizing and Building the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut*.

7. Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. The Heart of John Wesley's Journal.
2. The Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.

3. The Learning Process.—*Colvin.*
4. Everyday Evangelism.—*Leete*; or Letters on Evangelism.—*Hughes.*
5. Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*Wesley.*
6. The Pastor-Preacher.—*Quayle.*

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. Jesus and the Gospels.—*Denney.*
2. Preparation and Delivery of Sermons.—*Broadus.*
3. American History.—*James and Sanford.*
4. Winning the Fight Against Drink.—*Eaton.*
5. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey.*
6. English Style in Public Discourse.—*Phelps.*
7. Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. Sermons (Vol. I), I-XXXIII.—*Wesley.*
2. Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen.*
3. Heart of Asbury's Journal.—*Tipple.*
4. Christian Nurture.—*Bushnell*; or Elements of Religious Pedagogy.—*Pattee.*
5. Extemporaneous Oratory.—*Buckley.*
6. The Present South.—*Murphy.*
7. Jesus Christ and the Social Question.—*Peabody.*
8. The Methodist Review.

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. Biblical Hermeneutics.—*Terry.*
2. The Bible, Its Origin and Nature.—*Dods.*
3. How We Think.—*Dewey.*
4. The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer.*
5. The Light of the World.—*Speer.*
6. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott.*
7. In Pulpit and Parish.—*Burton.*
8. Essay.

To be Read:

1. Sermons (Vol. I), XXXIV-LVIII.—*Wesley.*
2. History of Methodism, Vol. I.—*Stevens.*

3. St. Paul the Traveler.—*Ramsay*.
4. Methodism and the Republic.—*Platt*.
5. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch*.
6. The Resurrection of Jesus.—*Orr*; or The Fact of Christ.—*Simpson*.
7. The Methodist Review.

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine (pp. 1-322).—*Sheldon*.
2. History of the Christian Church.—*Fisher*.
3. The Fact of Conversion.—*Jackson*.
4. Sacerdotalism in the Nineteenth Century.—*Sheldon*.
5. The New Basis of Civilization.—*Patten*.
6. Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. Fellowship in the Life Eternal.—*Findlay*.
2. The Indwelling Spirit.—*Davison*.
3. The Christian Faith.—*Curtis*.
4. Governing Conference in Methodism.—*Neely*.
5. History of Methodism, Vol. II.—*Stevens*.
6. Social Message of the Modern Pulpit.—*Brown*; or Social Solutions.—*Hall*.
7. The Methodist Review.

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine (pp. 325-635).—*Sheldon*.
2. Theism.—*Bowne*.
3. Christian Ethics.—*Smyth*.
4. Principles of Literary Criticism.—*Winchester*.
5. Prophecy and the Prophets.—*Eiselen*.
6. The Social Engineer.—*Earp*.
7. Essay, or Synopsis of the Psychology of the Christian Soul.—*Steven*.

To be Read:

1. Place of Christ in Modern Theology.—*Fairbairn*; or The Historic Christ in the Faith of To-day.—*Grist*.

COURSES OF STUDY—LOCAL PREACHERS ¶ 572

2. History of Methodism, Vol. III.—*Stevens*.
3. Historical Geography of the Holy Land.—*Smith*.
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Brooks*.
5. Hymn Studies.—*Tillett and Nutter*.
6. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell*.
7. Constitutional History.—*Buckley*.
8. The Methodist Review.

¶ 571. License to Preach

Candidates for License to Preach are to be examined in the common branches of an English education, and on their general knowledge of the Bible, and of the Doctrines and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ 572. Local Preachers

NOTE 1.—Any Conference, with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may adopt this course for its Traveling Preachers instead of the foregoing four-years' course; provided, however, that any Class for which this course was adopted shall continue in the same until the completion of the four-years' course.

NOTE 2.—In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the Traveling Ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular Courses of Study in our Theological Seminaries or in Universities or Colleges approved by the University Senate, until they shall become candidates for Deacons' or Elders' orders.

§ 1. FIRST YEAR

1. The Worker and His Bible.—*Eiselen and Barclay*.
2. A Manual of Christian Doctrine.—*Banks*.
3. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom*.
4. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler*.
5. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912.

To be Read:

1. The Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.
2. Organizing and Building up the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut*.
3. Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester*.
4. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle*.

¶ 572 COURSES OF STUDY—LOCAL PREACHERS

§ 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
2. Short History of the Christian Church (Early and Mediæval Periods).—*Hurst*.
3. History of Methodism (abridged).—*Stevens*.
4. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott*.
5. Essay or Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. Elements of Religious Pedagogy.—*Pattee*.
2. How to Study the Bible.—*Clifford and Moule*.
3. Winning the Fight Against Drink.—*Eaton*.
4. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull*.

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Life of St. Paul.—*Stalker*.
2. Short History of the Christian Church (Modern).—*Hurst*.
3. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill*.
4. Methodism and the Republic.—*Platt*.
5. Essay or Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
2. Personal Evangelism.—*Leete*; or Letters on Evangelism.—*Hughes*.
3. The Experimental Note.—*Sheridan*.
4. Social Solutions.—*Hall*.

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. The Bible, its Origin and Nature.—*Dods*.
2. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey*.
3. American History.—*James and Sanford*.
4. Social Creed of the Churches.—*Ward and Others*.
5. Essay or Written Sermon.

To be Read:

1. Heart of Asbury's Journal.—*Tipple*.

2. The Ideal Life.—*Drummond*; or *Imago Christi*.—*Stalker*.

3. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell*.

4. Building a Working Church.—*Black*.

¶ 573. Local Preachers Who Are Candidates for Orders

§ 1. DEACONS' ORDERS

Local Preachers who are Candidates for Deacons' Orders are required to pass a satisfactory examination at the Annual Conference, in review of the *entire four-years' course* prescribed for Local Preachers.

§ 2. ELDERS' ORDERS

Local Deacons who are Candidates for Elders' Orders are required to pass a satisfactory examination at the Annual Conference on the following books:

1. A Manual of Christian Doctrine.—*Banks*.

2. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912.

3. The Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.

4. The Life of St. Paul.—*Stalker*.

¶ 574. Class Leaders

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912.

2. The Drill Master of Methodism.—*Goodell*.

3. The Class Meeting.—*FitzGerald*.

4. Letters on Evangelism.—*Hughes*.

5. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull*.

6. John Wesley, the Methodist.

7. Manual of Christian Doctrine.—*Banks*.

8. How to Study the Bible.—*Clifford and Moule*.

9. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom*.

10. The Worker and His Bible.—*Eiselen and Barclay*.

11. History of Methodism (abridged).—*Stevens*.

12. Outline of Church History.—*Hurst*.

13. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill*.

14. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott.*

15. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle.*

GERMAN COURSES

¶ 575. Reiseprediger

§ 1. ZULASSUNG AUF PROBE

1. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.—*Nast.*

2. Geschichte des Methodismus.—*Kriege.*

3. Kirchenordnung, 1912. (I-IV Teil.)

4. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.*

5. Ein Aufsatz, in welchem der Kandidat einen Bericht über seinen Bildungsgang, seine Bekehrung und seine Berufung zum Predigtamt giebt.

Zum Lesen:¹

a. Deutsche Sprach und Stillehre.—*Weise.*²

b. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I Teil, 33 Predigten.)

c. Die Christliche Erfahrung.—*Merrill.*

d. Die religiös-sittliche Erziehung der Jugend.—*Hertzer.*

§ 2. ERSTES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.*³ (§§ 1-6, 10-29.)

2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber.* (§§ 1-29.)

3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (I Teil.)

4. Homiletik.—*Burt.*

¹ Die Kandidaten sollen schriftlich bezeugen, dass sie die betreffenden Bücher gelesen haben und sollen einen Auszug aus einem von den Examinatoren bezeichneten Kapitel einhändigen.

² In den deutschen Konferenzen in Amerika wird hierüber ein Examen verlangt.

³ In den deutschen Konferenzen in Europa kann die Glaubenslehre von Sulzberger gebraucht werden.

5. Kirchenordnung, 1912. (V-IX Teil.)

6. Schriftliche Arbeit.¹

Zum Lesen:

- a. Unsere Muttersprache.—*Weise*.
- b. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer*.² (I Teil.)
- c. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)
- d. Geschichte des Methodismus. (Neue Bremer Ausgabe.)

§ 3. ZWEITES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider*. (§§ 30-64.)

2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber*. (§§ 30-53 und Anhang.)

3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel*. (II Teil.)

4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*. (I Teil.)

5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler*. (§§ 1-114.)

6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen:

- a. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer*. (II Teil.)
- b. Kennst du das Land?—*Schneller*.
- c. Jugendlehre.—*Förster*.
- d. Die Wunder des Unglaubens.—*Ballard-König*.

§ 4. DRITTES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider*. (§§ 65-101.)

2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber*. (Neues Testament.)

3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel*. (III, I Teil.)

4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*. (II Teil.)

5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler*. (§§ 115-142.)

6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

¹ Das Thema der schriftlichen Arbeit Predigt oder Abhandlung ist jedesmal von der Prüfungskommission festzusetzen.

² In der Schweizer Konferenz kann die Allgemeine Geschichte von Pechsli gebraucht werden.

Zum Lesen:¹

- a. Deutsche Literaturgeschichte.—*K. Stork.*
- b. Der Glaube im Neuen Testament.—*Schlatter.*
- c. Geschichte der Protestantischen Missionen.—*Warneck.*
- d. Centralfragen der Dogmatik.—*Ihmels.*
- e. Philosophische Weltanschauungen und ihre Hauptvertreter.—*Heussner.*

§ 5. VIERTES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.* (§§ 102-end.)
2. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (III, II Teil.)
3. Neutestamentliche Theologie.—*Van Oosterzee.*
4. Allgemeine Pädagogik.—*Nieden.*
5. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen:¹

- a. Handbuch der Religionsgeschichte.—*Wurm.*
- b. Natur und Bibel.—*Riem.*
- c. Christentum und Klassenkampf.—*Förster.*
- d. Persönlichkeit Christliche Lebensphilosophie.—*Pfenigsdorf.*

¶ 576. Lokalprediger

§ 1. BEVOLLMAECHTIGUNG ZUM PREDIGEN

Die Kandidaten für Bevollmächtigung zum Predigen sollen eine Prüfung bestehen über ihre Bibelkenntnis und Bekanntschaft mit den Lehren und Gebräuchen der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.

§ 2. ERSTES JAHR

1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.* (Altes Testament.)

¹ Als Ersatz für ein theologisches Buch gilt das Lesen einer theologischen Zeitschrift. Methodist Review oder Der Geisteskampf der Gegenwart.

2. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodistischen Kirche.—*Nast*.

3. Die Kirchenordnung. (Ausgabe vom Jahr 1912.)
Zum Lesen:

1. Die Christliche Erfahrung auf den verschiedenen Stufen des Gnadenwerks.—*Merrill*.

2. Wesley und seine Mitarbeiter.—*Nast*.

§ 3. ZWEITES JAHR

1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz*. (Neues Testament.)

2. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I. Teil, 33 Predigten.)

3. Christliche Kirchengeschichte.—*Calwer Verein*.

Zum Lesen:

1. Geschichte Deutschlands; oder der Vereinigten Staaten; von irgend einem anerkannten Verfasser.

§ 4. DRITTES JAHR

1. Die feurige Zunge.—*Arthur*.

2. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)

3. Christliche Vollkommenheit.—*Wesley*.

4. Glaubensartikel und Hauptlehren.—*Sulzberger*.

Zum Lesen:

1. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*.

2. Das Leben Jesu.—*Weitbrecht*.

§ 5. VIERTES JAHR

Wiederholung des vorhergehenden dreijährigen Kursus.

Zum Lesen:

1. Geschichte der Bischöflichen Methodistischen Kirche, 2 Bände.—*Stevens*.

2. Die Hauptlehren des Methodismus.—*Paulus*.

3. Bibliche Altertümer.—*Kinzler*.

¶ 577 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

NORWEGIAN AND DANISH COURSES

FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES

¶ 577. Studiekursus for Norsk-danske Methodist predikanter i Amerika

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard.*
2. Geografi.—*Olaf Skulestad.*
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe.*
4. Compendium of American Methodism.—*Abel Stevens.*
5. Norsk Stil.—*Tönnesen.*
6. Buehler's English Grammar. (Siste Udgave, Side 1-94.)

Til Læsning:

1. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912.
2. En skreven Syllabus af F. Levison's Menneskelegemet.

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Schjött.* (Oldtiden.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fischer.* (Side 1-162, Den ældre Tid.)
4. Pastoren Hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon.*
5. English Grammar.—*Buehler.* (Side 94-295.)
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (Hele Bogen.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*
8. Skreven Prædiken om Forsoningen.

Til Læsning:

1. Kristelig Fuldkommenhed.—*Fletcher.*
2. Bibelhistorie. (Norsk-danske Boghandels.)

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 147-404.)
2. Homeetik. "Forkyndelsen."—*Jansen.*

3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fischer*. (Side 163-286, Middelaidd.)
4. Psychologi.—*Höffding*. (1st Trediedel.)
5. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Side 1-75.)
6. History of the United States.—*Montgomery*.
7. Skreven Prædiken om Retfærdiggjørelsen.

Til Læsning:

1. History of Methodism.—*Abel Stevens*. (1st Del.)
2. Penslers Form, etc.
3. The Teaching of Citizenship.—*Hughes*.

§ 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Schjött*. (Nyere Tid.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fischer*. (Side 287-423.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip*.
5. Psychologi.—*Höffding*. (2d Trediedel.)
6. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Side 76-300.)
7. Socialism and the Social Movement.—*Werner Sambort*.
8. Skreven Prædiken om Gjenfödelsens og Helliggjörelsens indbyrdes Forbindelse.

Til Læsning:

1. Ildtungen.—*Arthur*.
2. History of Methodism.—*Abel Stevens*. (2d Del.)

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 646-780.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
3. Psychologi.—*Höffding*. (Trediedel.)
4. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Side 301-590.)
5. Den Hellige Skrifts Historie.—*Olafsen*.
6. Sunday School.—Book Two of the Convention Normal Course.
7. Skreven Afhandling om Inspirationen.

Til Læsning:

1. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing*.
2. History of Methodism.—*Abel Stevens*. (3d Del.)

¶ 578 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

¶ 578. For Lokaldiakoners Ordination

1. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill*.
2. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Ledetraad.)
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe*.
4. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard*.
5. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey*.
6. Lærebog i Bibelhistorie.—*Asperheim*.
7. Skreven Prædiken om Daaben.

Til Læsning:

1. Bibelnöglén.
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¶ 579. For Lokalældstes Ordination

1. Pastoren Hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon*.
 2. Verdenshistorie.—*Schjött*.
 3. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip*.
 4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
 5. Skreven Prædiken om Daaben og Nadværen.
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FOR THE NORWAY CONFERENCE

¶ 580. Studiekursus for Predikanter i Norges Konference

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard Alls*.
2. Geografi.—*Norris*. (For Amts og Falkeskoler.)
3. Norges Historie.—*Petersen*.
4. Nordens Historie.—*Eriksen*.
5. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood*.
6. Sammendrag af Theologien.—*Binney*.

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader*. (Oldtiden.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Nullematore Oldtiden.)

COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH ¶581

4. Pastoraltheologi.—*Vinet.*
5. Bibelnöglén.—*Jensen-Fogh.*
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (I-V Del.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 147-404.)
2. Homiletik.—*Burt.*
3. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader.* (Middelalderen.)
4. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Middelalderen.)
5. Logik.—*Jevons.*
6. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den alm Del.)
7. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (VI-VIII Del.)
8. Skreven Prædiken om Retfærdiggjærelsen.

§ 4. III AARSNKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader.* (Den nyere Tid.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Den nyere Tid.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Brock og Seip.*
5. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 1-63.)
6. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den Specielle Del, I Bind.)
7. Pastoren Hjemene og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon.*
8. Skreven Prædiken om Helliggjørelsen.

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 645-780.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson.*
3. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 64-96.)
4. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den Specielle Del, II Bind.)
5. Modern Sunday School.—*Vincent.*
6. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing.*
7. Skreven Afhandling om Inspirationen.

¶ 581. For Lokalprædikanter

For at bli Lokalprædikanter almindelig god Falkeskolekunds-kob foruden Eksamination "i Læren og Disciplinen."

¶ 582 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

§ 1. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Binney*. (Förste Haladel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (I-III Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Oldtiden.)

§ 2. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Binney*. (Anden Haladel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (IV-VI Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Middelalderen.)
4. Skreven Afhandling om Daaben.

§ 3. III AARSKLASSE

1. Bibelnöglen.—*Jensen-Fogh*. (Förste Haladel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1912. (VII-VIII Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Den nyere Tid.)

§ 4. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Bibelnöglen.—*Jensen-Fogh*. (Anden Haladel.)
2. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood*.
3. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill*.
4. Skreven Afhandling om Naadens orden.

¶ 582. For Diakonordination

1. Förste og andet Aars Studie.
2. Disciplinens Haandbog.—*Merrill*.
3. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 1-63.)

¶ 583. For Aldsteordination

1. Tredie og fjerde Aars Studie.
2. Helliggjörelsen.—*Fletcher*.
3. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 64-96.)

¶ 584. DANISH COURSES

Eksamenaardet vil, hvor det ikke er gjort, anwise hvilke Böger, og hvor short et Afsuit i de enkelte Böger

COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH ¶585

Kandidaterne shal lære.—Der gives et kort skriftligt Resume of de til Læsning anviste.

¶ 585. Rejseprædikanter

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Dansk Sproglære.
2. Geografi.
3. Samfundslære.
4. Verdenshistorie.
5. Kirkehistorie.
6. Metodismen.—*Gaarde*.
7. Sammendrag af Teologien.—*Binney*.
8. Katekismus.
9. Disciplinen, 1912.
10. En skreven Selvbiografi.

Læsning:

1. Jesu Liv.—*Farrar*.
2. Testskriftet.—*Gaarde*.
3. Fra Herrens Tjeneste.—*Gotsche*.
4. Mauden fra Galilæa.—*Haygood*.

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (Pag. 1-146.)
2. Bibelnoeglen.—*Jensen-Fogh*.
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann*. (I.)
4. Homiletik. "Forkyndelsen."—*J. J. Jansen*.
5. Indledning til den hellige Skrift.—*Weber*.
6. Skreven Prædiken: Menneskets Fald og Forlosningen ved Kristus.

Læsning:

1. Kristelig Fuldkommenhed.—*Fletcher*.
2. Kristus og Mand.—*Ricard*.
3. Verdens Evangelisering.—*Mott*.
4. Livsbilleder of O. P. Petersen.—*Eltzholtz*.
5. Wesleys Prædikener, I. Dansk Udgave.
6. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (Vol. I.)

¶ 585 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (Pag. 147-404.)
2. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Nielsen*.
3. Literaturhistorie.
4. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann*. (II.)
5. Exegese efter Wesley's Notes on the New Testament.
6. Skreven Prædiken: Aandens Værdsbyrd.

Læsning:

1. Ildtunger.—*Arthur*.
2. Sociale Spørgsmaal.—*Schach*.
3. Danmarks og Norges Literaturskat. (I.)
4. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar*. (I.)
5. Wesleys Prædikener, II. (Dansk Udgave.)
6. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (Vol. II.)

§ 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (Pag. 405-645.)
2. Ethik.—*Martensen*. (Pag. 1-300.)
3. Logik.—*Jevons*.
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
5. Exegese: Johannes Evangeliet.—*Godet*.
6. Skreven Afhandling: Kirken og det sociale Spørgsmaal.

Læsning:

1. Præsten hjemme og i Kirken.
2. Evangeliets Sejrsang.—*Ussing*.
3. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar*. (II.)
4. Bibelske Studier.—*Godet*.
5. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (Vol. III.)

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (Pag. 646-780.)
2. Ethik.—*Martensen*. (Pag. 301-590.)
3. Den højere Kritik af Pentateuken.
4. Exegese: Pauli Liv og Breve.—*Godet*.
5. Skreven Prædiken: Valgfrit Emne.

Læsning:

1. Den sociale Udvikling. —*Kidd.*
2. Modern Sunday School. —*Vincent*
3. Pastoral Evangelism. —*Goodell.*
4. Verdenslitteraturens Perler.
5. History of American Methodism. —*Stevens.*

¶ 586. Lokalprædikanter

§ 1. LOKALPRÆDIKANTBEMYUDIGELSE

1. Katekismus.
2. Bibelhistorie.
3. Haandsrækning til en Lokalprædikant. —*Olsen.*
4. Metodismen. —*Gaarde en. fl.*
5. Disciplin, 1912. (I-III.)

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Sammendrag af Teologien. —*Binney.*
2. Disciplin, 1912. (IV-V.)
3. Kirkehistorie. —*Nielsen.* (I.)
4. Disciplinens Haandbog. —*Merrill.*

Læsning:

1. Troens Hemmelighed. —*Skoogoord-Petersen.*
2. Jesu Liv. —*Farrar.*

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi. —*Ralston.* (I-XI.)
2. Disciplin, 1912. (VI-VII.)
3. Kirkehistorie. —*Nielsen.* (II.)
4. En skreven Selvbiografi.

Læsning:

1. Apostlen Paulus. —*Farrar.* (I.)
2. Hvad i Kristendom. —*L. C. Petersen.*

§ 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Ralston.* (XI-XX.)
2. Bibelvennen.—*Johansen.*
3. Verdenshistorie.—*Oldtid.* (Middelalder.)
4. Skreven Prædiken: Retfærdiggørelsen

Læsning:

1. Testskriftet.—*Gaarde.*
2. Kristelig Fuldkommenhed.—*Wesley.*
3. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar.* (II.)

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Ralston.* (XXI-XXXII.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Oldtid.* (Nyere Tid.)
3. Forkyndelsen.—*J. J. Jansen.*
4. Skreven Prædiken: Helliggjørelsen.

Læsning:

1. Manden fra Galilæa.—*Haygood.*
2. Livsbilleder af O. P. Petersen.—*Eltzholtz.*
3. Kristus og Mand.—*Ricard.*

SWEDISH COURSES

FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES

¶ 587. Resepredikanter

§ 1. INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Katekesen.—*Nast.*
2. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger.*
3. Kyrkoordningen, 1912.
4. Svensk språklära. (Ljud-och Formlära.)—*Sundén.*
5. Geografi.—*E. Karlson.*
6. Allmän Historia.—*Rolfson, Nordahl.*
7. Det Heliga Landet i Ord och Bild.—*T. E. Schmank.*
8. English Grammar.—*Longman.*

Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Första Bandet.)
2. Sveriges Historia.—*Odhner*.

§ 2. FÖRSTA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Introd. and Part I.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—*Hammerich*. (Del. I.)
3. Bibelkännedom.—*Brodén*.
4. Naturkunnighet.—*Berg och Lindén*.
5. Svensk språklära. (Syntax.)—*Sundén*.
6. Higher Lessons in English.—*Reed and Kellogg*.
7. Avhandling: Socialismen.

Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Andra Bandet.)
2. Evangelii Fulla välsignelse.—*Foster*.
3. Tegnér's Skrifter.

§ 3. ANDRA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Part II.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—*Hammerich*. (Del. II.)
3. Inledn. vetenskap till Bibeln.—*Schlatter*. (Gla Test.)
4. Lectures on Homiletics.—*Kern*.
5. Kulturhistoria.—*Boethius*.
6. Avhandling: Nattvarden.

Böcker till läsning:

1. The Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester*.
2. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey*.
3. Reformationshistorien.—*D'Aubigné*.

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Part III.)
2. Inledn. vetenskap till Bibeln.—*Schlatter*. (Nya Test.)
3. Vårt Tankeliv.—*Almquist*.
4. Nord Am. Förenta Stater.—*Svedelius och Nyström*.
5. Avhandling: Försoningen.

Böcker till läsning:

1. American Methodism.—*Stevens*. (Kap. 1-19.)
2. Naturens Lagar och Andens Värld.—*Drummond*.
3. Religionsvetenskapen.—*Tiele*.

§ 5. FJÄRDE ÅRET

1. The Christian Faith.—*Curtis*.
 2. Den kristliga etiken.—*Martensen*.
 3. The Christian Pastorate.—*Kidder*.
 4. Logik.—*Sjöberg och Klingberg*.
 5. Avhandling: Helgelse.
 6. Avhandling, engelsk: Sw. Methodism in America.
- Böcker till läsning:

1. Kristus i världshistorien.—*Farrar*.
2. American Methodism.—*Stevens*. (Kap. 20-36.)
3. The Bible: Its Origin and Nature.—*Dods*.

¶ 588. Lokalpredikanter

För erhållandet och förnyandet av fullmakt skall lokalpredikanten årligen examineras, till dess han, efter fyra års förlopp, stått godkänd examen uti följande ämnen:

1. M. E. Kyrkans Katekes.
2. Kyrkoordningen, 1912. (Delad på 4 år.)
3. Biblisk Historia.
4. Lärobok i Bibelkunskap.—*Kejser*.
5. Kyrkohistoria.—*Löfgren*. (Delad på 3 år.)

¶ 589. För ordinerings till Diakon

1. Katekes.—*Nast*.
2. Anvisning till bibelkännedom.—*Welanders*.
3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén*.
4. Avhandling: Försoningen.

¶ 590. För ordinerings till Äldste

1. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger*.
2. Översikt av de bibliska böckerna.—*Brodén*.

3. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*Fletcher*.
4. Doctrinal Aspect of Christian Experience.—*Merrill*.
5. Avhandling: Bibelns inspiration.

FOR THE SWEDEN CONFERENCE

¶ 591. Resepredikanter

§ 1. FÖR INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes och Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse med förklaringar.—*A. Suizberger*.
2. Kyrkoordningen, 1912.
3. Bibelkännedom.—*P. Welander och C. E. Benander*.
4. Bilder ur kyrkans historia.—*C. Fr. Lundin*.
5. Metodistkyrkans historia.—*J. Porter*.
6. Lärobok i fäderneslandets historia i sammandrag.—*Grimberg*.
7. Allmän historia.—*Pallin*.
8. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*D. A. Sundén*.
9. Räknebok.—*Larsson, Möller, Lundell*.
10. Naturkunnighet.—*Berg och Lindén*.
11. Skolgeografi, 1 kurs.—*Carlsson*.
12. Muntlig översättning av lättare engelsk text.
13. En skriftligen avfattad teckning av den inträdes-sökandes eget liv.

Att läsa: Wesley 53 predikningar.

§ 2. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran: Inledning.—*A. Sulzberger*.
2. A Popular History of Methodism.—*J. Telford*.
3. The Christian Pastorate.—*J. Kidder*.
4. Recruiting and Organizing the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut*.
5. Det avgörande ögonblicket i den kristna missionens historia.—*Mott*.

6. Novum Testamentum: Lukas Evang.
 7. Avhandling om dopet.
- Att läsa: Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher.*
A Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*J. Wesley.*

§ 3. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 1.)
 2. Sjeleläre.—*William James.*
 3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 1.)
 4. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt.*
 5. Lärobok i Pedagogik.—*Sv. Lundqvist.*
 6. Novum Testamentum: Apostlag.
 7. Avhandling om nattvarden.
- Att läsa: A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 1.)

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 2.)
 2. Litteraturhistoria.—*Warburg.*
 3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 2.)
 4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 1.)
 5. Bibelstudiekurs.—*J. Rinman.* (Serie 1-4.)
 6. Novum Testamentum: Matt. Evang.
 7. Avhandling om försoningen.
- Att läsa: A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 2.)
Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*

§ 5. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 3.)
2. Hermeneutik.—*Edgren.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 3.)
4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 2.)
5. Novum Testamentum: Galaterbrevet.
6. Avhandling om helgelsen.

Att läsa: The Church and the Social Crisis.—
Rauschenbusch.
 Filosofiens historia.—*S. G. Youngert.*

¶ 592. Lokalpredikanter

§ 1. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes.
2. Palestina, det heliga landet.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del 1-2.)

Läsning:

Wesley och hans samtida.

Wesleys predikningar. (1-sta Bandet.)

Biblisk historia.

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i England.

—*J. Porter.*

§ 2. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger.*
2. Seder och bruk de i Bibeln omtalade folken.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 3-4.)

Läsning:

Wesleys predikningar. (2-dra Bandet.)

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i Amerika.

—*J. Porter.*

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Läran om frälsning från metodistisk ståndpunkt.—
C. A. Stenholm.
2. Anvisning till Bibelns kännedom.—*P. Welander.*
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 7-9.)

Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Till reformationen.—*N. Lovgren.*

Kristendomens salighetssanningar.—*Luthardt.*

¶ 593 COURSES OF STUDY—FINNISH

§ 5. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Studium av Pauli brev till Romarne.—*A. Clarke.*
2. Repetition av kyrkoordningen.

Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Nyare tiden.—*N. Lovgren.*

Lärobok i världshistorien.—*C. A. Zachrisson.*

¶ 593 For lokaldiakonexamen

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes.
2. Anvisning till Bibelns kännedom.—*P. Welander.*
3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén.*
4. Avhandling om försoningen.

¶ 594. For lokaläldstoexamen

1. Kyrkoordningen.
2. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger.*
3. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt.*
4. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher.*
5. Avhandling om helgelsen.

FINNISH COURSES

¶ 595. Swedish-speaking preachers are permitted to choose corresponding books in Swedish, according to the direction of the Board of Examination.

¶ 596. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

NOTE.—Those who have graduated from one of our seminaries need only to pass an examination in the Discipline and Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

1. The Doctrines of Methodist Church.
2. Introduction to the Bible.—*Welander or Waaranen.*

3. Discipline of Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912.

4. John Wesley.—*McDonald*.

5. History of Finland.—*Schyberkson* or *Forström*.

6. Stylistic.—*Sjöberg* and *Klingberg* or *Rapola*.

7. Elementary English.—*Afzelius* or *Braekke*.

8. Written Sermon on Call to Preach.

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Introduction and Part I.)—*Sulzberger*.

2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures.—*Schlatter*. (Old Testament.)

3. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder*.

4. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Lundén* or *Gummerus*.

5. General History. (Ancient Times.)—*Estlander*.

6. The Dissenter Law and Related Statutes.

7. Etymology of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén* or *Jännes*.

8. Etymology of the English Language.—*Afzelius* or *Braekke*.

9. Written Sermon on Conversion.

To be Read:

1. Wesley's Sermons. (I.)

2. Bible Studies. (Ancient Times.)—*Godet*.

3. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Fabricius* or *Nissen-Gummerus*.

4. The Pastor at Home and in Church.—*Spurgeon*.

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Part II.)—*Sulzberger*.

2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures (New Test.)—*Schlatter*.

3. Primer in Homiletics.—*Edwards*.

4. General History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Estlander*.

5. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Lundén* or *Gummerus*.

6. History of Methodism. (a) Methodism in England. (b) Written Essay on John Wesley.—*Hurst.*
7. English. Translations from the Mother Tongue.—*Afzelius or Braekke.*
8. The Syntax of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén or Setälä.*
9. Written Sermon on the Witness of the Spirit.

To be Read :

1. Wesley's Sermons, II.
2. Bible Studies. (New Test.)—*Godet.*
3. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Fabrizius or Nissen-Gummerus.*
4. A New Life of Christ. (Part I.)—*F. W. Farrar;* or Christian Evidences.—*Luthardt.*

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Part III.)—*Sulzberger.*
2. Exegetical Studies in the Synoptical Gospels.—*Godet.*
3. General History. (Modern Times to the French Revolution.)—*Estlander.*
4. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Lundén or Gummerus.*
5. History of Methodism. (a) Methodism in America. (b) Written Essay on Bishop Asbury.—*Hurst.*
6. Psychological Principles of Education.—*Boæström,* or some other corresponding book in Swedish.
7. Ethics.—*W. Herrmans.*
8. Philosophy.—*Knut Barr.*
9. Written Sermon on Christian Perfection.

To be Read :

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Fabrizius or Nissen-Gummerus.*
2. Pedagogy.—*E. Martig or Soininen.*
3. The Ethics of Jesus.—*E. Grim.*
4. Christian Perfection.—*Fletcher.*

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Exegetical Studies in the Epistles of Saint Paul.—*Godet*.

2. Biblical Archæology.—*Skarstedt*.

3. General History. (Modern Times from the French Revolution.)—*Estlander*.

4. History of Methodism. (a) Methodist Missions; (b) Written Essay on the Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Hurst*.

5. History of Modern Missions.—*Henry Ussing*.

6. History of Philosophy.—*Wagner or W. Jerusalem*.

7. Introduction to Science of Religion.—*C. P. Tiele*.

8. History of Literature of the Mother Tongue.—*R. Steffen or Godenhjelm*.

9. Written Sermon on any Subject.

To be Read:

1. The Gospel of Saint John.—*Godet*.

2. General History of Literature.

¶ 597. Local Preachers

§ 1. FIRST YEAR

1. Biblical History.—*Sundvall*.

2. Standard Catechism.

3. History of Methodism. (The Work in England.)—*Porter*.

4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts I-III.)

§ 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Bible Introduction.—*Velander or Vaaranen*.

2. History of Methodism. (The Work in America.)—*Porter*.

3. A Short Grammar.—*Lagerblad or Setälä*.

4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts IV-VI.)

¶ 598 COURSES OF STUDY—RUSSIAN

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney*.
2. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol I.)
3. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon*. (Vol. I, or some other.)
4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts VII-IX.)
5. Church History. (Early Church.)—*Vaaranen* or *Lundén*.

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. II.)
2. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon*. (Vol. II, or some other.)
3. Church History. (Mediæval Church.)—*Vaaranen* or *Lundén*.

¶ 598. Local Deacons

The entire Course for Local Preachers.

¶ 599. Local Elders

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Vaaranen* or *Lundén*.
2. History of Finland.—*Forström*.
3. General History.—*Palin*.
4. Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
5. Life of Paul.—*Stalker*.

NOTE.—This course is to be read in four years.

RUSSIAN COURSES

¶ 600. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

1. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff*.
2. History of Russia.—*Platonoff*.
3. Geography.—*Kruber-Grigorieff*.
4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts I-IV.)

5. Standard Catechism.
6. Life of Wesley.—*Telford*.
7. Written Sermon on the Call to Preach.

To be Read:

1. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley*.
2. Life of Christ.—*Farrar*.
3. Handbook for Probationers.—*Burt*.

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts I and II.)—*Schneider*.
2. History of World. (Ancient.)—*Karjaeff*.
3. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz*.
4. Russian Rhetoric.—*Abramoff*.
5. Homiletics.—*Burt*.
6. Discipline, 1912. (Parts V-IX.)
7. Written Sermon on the Atonement.

To be Read:

1. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley*.
2. How to Speak in Public.—*Spurgeon*.
3. Science and the Bible.—*Bettex*.

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts III and IV.)—*Schneider*.
2. History of World. (Mediæval.)—*Karjaeff*.
3. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz*.
4. History of Church.—*Kurtz*.
5. History of Russian Literature. (Part I.)—*Nezelenoff*.
6. Logic.—*Chelpanoff*.
7. Written Sermon on Justification by Faith.

To be Read:

1. Wesley's Journal.
2. The Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.
3. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott*.

¶ 601 COURSES OF STUDY—RUSSIAN

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part V.)—*Schneider*.
2. History of World. (Modern.)—*Karjaeff*.
3. History of Russian Literature. (Part II.)—*Nezelenoff*.
4. Psychology.—*Nechajeff*.
5. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff*.
6. Ethics.—*Paulus*.
7. English or German Grammar.—*Gaspey-Sauer*.
8. Written Sermon on Regeneration or Sanctification.

To be Read:

1. Life of Francis Asbury.—*Mains*.
2. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler*.
3. Pilgrim's Progress.—*Bunyan*.

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part VI.)—*Schneider*.
2. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff*.
3. History of Russian Orthodox Church.—*Smirnoff*.
4. History of Philosophy.—*Paulsen*.
5. Political Economy.—*Eschupoff*.
6. Sociology.—*Kovalevsky*.
7. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If candidate is other than Russian.)
8. Written Sermon on the Sacraments.

To be Read:

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*.
2. The Russian Sects.—*Margaritoff*.
3. Europe and Methodism.—*Burt*.

¶ 601. Local Preachers

§ 1. FIRST YEAR

1. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz*.
2. Standard Catechism.

3. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff*.
4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts I-IV.)

§ 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz*.
2. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff*.
3. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff*.
4. Discipline, 1912. (Parts V-IX.)

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney*.
2. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley*.
3. Homiletics.—*Burt*.
4. Life of Wesley.—*Telford*.

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Church History.—*Kurtz*.
2. History of World. (Abridged.)—*Karjaeff*.
3. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If candidate is other than Russian.)
4. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley*.

ITALIAN COURSES

¶ 602. Predicatori Itineranti

N. B.—1. La cultura generale che si richiede usualmente ai canddati corrispondere a quella necessari per ottenere la patenedi Maestro Elementare Superiore o l'ammissione all'Universita.

2. Per l'intiero corso lo-studente dovrà presentare delle dichiarazioni scritte che affermino se egli abbia letto o no attentamente tutti i libri assegnati—da leggere—, e presenterà un riassunto di qualche capitolo o de qualc'una delle questioni contenute in ciascun libro che antecedentemente gli esaminatori sceglieranno ed annu-zieranno a mezzo dei verbali della Conferenza od altrimenti.

§ 1. L'AMMISSIONE SOTTO PROVA

1. Compendio di Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst*. (Tra-duz. Burt.)

2. Teologia Dogmatica.—*Bovon*.
3. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodisto Episcopale, 1912.
4. Vita di Giovanni Wesley (Lelièvre) e Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott*.
5. Il contennto della Bibbia. (Studio diretto.)
6. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodisto Episcopale.
7. Omiletica.—*Burt*.
8. Relazione scritto della propria conversione e chiamata al Ministero.

§ 2. ANNO PRIMO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1º, Parte 1a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (1º Periodo: dal 1º all' 4º secolo.)
Testo: Histoire du Christianismo, par *Jules Guidraux*.
(Genève-Jeheber, Ed.)
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Impero Romano fuiss a Costantino.)
4. La Palestina ai tempi di Cristo.—*Hapfer*.
5. Omiletica.—*Vinet*.
6. Storia delle Religioni. (Chautepic de la Saussaye.)
7. Sermone scritto.

§ 3. ANNO SECONDO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1º, Parte 2a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (2º Periodo: dal Sec. IV all' VIII.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Medio Evo, Vol. III.)
4. Teologia Pastorale.—*Vinet*.
5. Introduzione all' Nuovo Testamento.—*Godet*. (Vol. II, Evangeli suiottici.)
6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere:

Esquitte d' ane philosophie de la Religioni.—*Sabatier*.

§ 4. ANNO TERZO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2º, Parte 1a.—*Gauthier*.)
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (3º Periodo: dal Sec. VIII all' XVI.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Medio Evo, Vol. IV.)
4. Introduzione all'Nuevo Testamento. (Dal IV Evangelo all'Apocalisse, escluse le Epistole Paoline.)—*Godet*. (2º Vol. Studê Biblici.)
5. Sermone scritto.

§ 5. ANNO QUARTO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2º, Parte 2a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (4º Periodo: dal Sec. XVI all' XX.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (6 empi moderni, Vol. V.)
4. Introduzione all'Nuevo Testamento. (Epistole Paoline e Vita di Paolo.)—*Godet*.
5. Storia dei Daomi.—*Harnack*. (Précis d'Histoire des Dogmes.)—*Fischbacher*.)
6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere:

Epitome di filosofia italica.—*Caporali*.

¶ 603. Programma proposto per gli Studi dei Predicatori Locali

§ 1. ANNO PRIMO

1. Nuovo Testamento: uopioi dirette e generali.
2. Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott*.
3. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.
4. Compendio di Teologia.—*Binney e Steele*.
5. Lingua di Fuoco.—*Arthur*.
6. Reliazione della propria conversione.

§ 2. ANNO SECONDO

1. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodisto Episcopale. (Dalla Ia alla VI^o Parte.)
2. Storia Moderna.—*Bragaguolo*.
3. Vita di Giovanni Wesley.—*Lelièvre*.
4. Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst*. (Traduz. Burt.)
5. Chiesa Primitiva.—*Backhouse e Taylor*.
6. Antico Testamento. (Nozioni dirette e generale.)
7. Sermone scritto.

§ 3. ANNO TERZO

1. Articoli di fede e Dottrine della Chiesa Metodisto Episcopale.—*Polisnielli*.
2. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodisto Episcopale. (Dalla VI, Parte alla fine.)
3. Storia della Riforma in Italia.—*Comba*.
4. I testimoni di Cristo.—*Backhouse e Taylor*.
5. I sermoni di Giovanni Wesley.
6. Sermone scritto.

§ 4. ANNO QUARTO

1. Le verità fondamentali del Christianismo.—*Luthardt*.
2. Il piccolo compagus della Bibbia.—*Yahier*.
3. Omiletica.—*Burt*.
4. Del Metodismo Episcopale.—*Ferreri*.
5. Sermone scritto.

 SPANISH COURSES

¶ 604. Predicadores Itinerantes

§ 1. PARA ADMISIÓN Á PRUEBA

1. Educación elemental:—Gramática, Aritmética, Geografía, Historia Patria, é Historia de las Américas.—*Estevanez*.
2. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1912. (Parte I.)

1. Catecismo Primario de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal y de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal del Sur.

4. Relación escrita de la conversión del candidato y de su vocación al ministerio.

§ 2. PRIMER AÑO

1. Biblia. Del Génesis al Segundo Libro de los Reyes, inclusivo.

2. Historia de la Iglesia Cristiana.—*Hurst*. (Parte Primera.)

3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1912. (Partes II, III, y IV.)

4. Psicología Pedagógica.—*Usuna*.

5. Como obtener la Plenitud del Poder?—*Torrey*.

6. Vida de Cristo.—*Stalker*.

7. Evidencias Cristianas.—*Mair*.

8. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo 1.)

2. Los Evangelios Explicados, Mateo.—*Ryle*.

3. El Hombre de Galilea.—*Haygood*.

4. El Deber.—*Smiles*.

§ 3. SEGUNDO AÑO

1. Biblia. De Esdras á Eclesiastés, inclusivo.

2. Historia de la Iglesia Cristiana.—*Hurst*. (Segunda Parte.)

3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1912. (Partes V, VI, y VII.)

4. Lógica.—*Mill*.

5. Homilética. La Predicación.—*Neely*.

6. El Arte de Ganar Almas.—*Mahood*.

7. Vida de San Pablo.—*Stalker*.

8. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo II.)

2. Los Evangelios Explicados, Marcos.—*Ryle*.

3. El Carácter.—*Smiles*.

4. Problemas y Metodos para la Escuela Dominical.—*Roads*.

5. La Ley Natural en el Mundo Espiritual.—*Drummond*.

§ 4. TERCER AÑO

1. Biblia. Profetas Mayores y Menores.

2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst*. (Tercera Parte.)

3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1912. (Partes VIII y IX.)

4. Manual de Doctrina Cristiana.—*Banks*.

5. Juan Wesley, Su Vida y Su Obra.—*Lelièvre*.

6. El Domingo El Verdadero Sabat.—*Gamble*.

7. El Arte de Hablar y Escribir, en 20 Lecciones.—*Toro y Gómez*.

8. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Los Evangelios Explicados.—*Lucas*. *Ryle*.

2. La Inteligencia.—*Taine*.

3. Vida y Trabajo.—*Smiles*.

4. El Bautismo.—Discusión, *Baez-Cheavens*.

§ 5. CUARTO AÑO

1. Biblia. De la Epístola de los Romanos al fin del N. T.

2. Historia de la Iglesia Cristiana.—*Hurst*. (Cuarta Parte.)

3. La manera de conducir los hombres á Cristo.—*Torrey*.

4. La Religión y las Ciencias Naturales.—*Better*.

5. La Salvación Personal.—*Tillett*.

6. Historia Universal.—*Decoudray*.

7. La Palabra en Público.—Traducción de *Jesús Urueta*.

8. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Los Evangelios Explicados. S. Juan.—*Ryle*.

2. Trabajo hábil para el maestro.—*Hendrix*.

3. Historia de la Reforma.—*Fisher*.

4. Christus Auctor.—*Candler*.

¶ 605. Predicadores Locales

§ 1. CANDIDATOS

1. La Biblia y sus Doctrinas, Conocimientos Generales.
2. El Catecismo Primario de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal y la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal del Sur.
3. El Libro de la Disciplina, 1912. (Los Artículos de fe y Reglamento General.)

§ 2. PRIMER AÑO

1. Compendio de Teología. (Parte Primera.)—*Binney*.
2. La Predicación. Primeros Once Capítulos.—*Neely*.
3. Juan Wesley, el Gran Reformador.—*Neely*.
4. Disciplina, 1912. (Partes II y III.)

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (La Mitad del Primer Tomo.)
2. El Arte de Ganar Almas.—*Mahood*.

§ 3. SEGUNDO AÑO

1. Compendio de Teología. (Parte Segunda.)—*Binney*.
2. La Predicación. (Ultimos Nueve Capítulos.)—*Neely*.
3. Sermón Escrito.
4. La Disciplina, 1912. (Partes IV, V, y VI.)

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Segunda Mitad del Primer Tomo.)
2. Ayúdate.—*Smiles*.

§ 4. TERCER AÑO

1. Compendio de Teología. (Parte Tercera.)—*Binney*.
2. El Libro de la Disciplina de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal, 1912. (Partes VII, VIII, y IX.)
3. La Salvación Personal.—*Tillett*.
4. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Primera Mitad del Segundo Tomo.)

2. Noches con los Romanistas.

§ 5. CUARTO AÑO

1. Compendio de Teología. (Parte Cuarta.)—*Binney*.

2. Historia de la Iglesia Cristiana.—*Hurst*.

3. Historia de la Reformación.—*Fisher*.

4. Sermón Escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Segunda Mitad del Segundo Tomo.)

2. Christus Auctor.—*Candler*.

3. El Hombre de Galilea.—*Haygood*.

FRENCH COURSE

¶ 606. Program of Studies for French Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION SOUS EPREUVE

1. Catechisme (y compris, les Doctrines et Principes de l'Église Methodiste Episcopale.)

2. Discipline de l'Église Methodiste Episcopale, 1912.

3. Histoire Biblique.—Jéhovah.—*Westphal*.

4. Histoire de l'Église Methodiste Episcopale.—*Ferreri*, Traduction, *Lieure*.)

5. Doctrine, Chrétienne.—*Court*, Exposé de la Religion Chrétienne.

6. Sermon écrit.

A Lire:

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.)

2. Vie de Wesley.—*Lelièvre*.

3. La Perfection Chrétienne.—*Wesley*. (Traduction Française.)

4. Discourses.—*Finney*.
5. La Langue de Feu.—*Arthur*. (Traduction Française.)
6. Les Pioniers Américains.—*Lelièvre*.

§ 2. PREMIÈRE ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique: Ancien Testament.—*Gautier*. (Vol. I.)
2. Homiletique. Traité d'Homiletique.—*Burt*.
3. Philosophie. Histoire de la Philosophie.—*Weber*.
4. Histoire. Cours Complet d'Histoire.—*Malet*. (Vol. I, Antiquité.)
5. Literature Française.—*Doumic*.
6. Theologie. Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen*. (Traduction *Ducros*, 1e. moitié.)

A Lire :

1. La Vie de Jésus.—*Pressensé*.
2. Homiletique.—*Vinet*.
3. La Vie de Saint François d'Assise.—*Paul Sabatier*.
4. Palestine.—*Bovet*.
5. Heure décisive des Missions modernes.—*Mott*. (Traduction Française.)

§ 3. DEUXIÈME ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique: Ancien Testament.—*Gautier*. (Vol. II.)
2. Histoire. Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. II.)
3. Philosophie, Cours Elementaire.—*Boirac*. (Pp. 1 à 312.)
4. Histoire de l'Eglise.
5. Theologie Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen*. (2e. moitié.)

A Lire :

1. Histoire des Protestants de France.—*Felice*.
2. De la Revocation à la Révolution.—*Lelièvre*.
3. Religion de l'Autorité et Religion de l'Esprit.—*A. Sabatier*.

¶ 607 COURSES OF STUDY—BULGARIAN

4. Experience Religieuse.—*James*. (Traduction, *Abeuzit*.)

5. Pots Cassés.—*Begbie*. (Traduction Francaise.)

§ 4. TROISIEME ANNÉE

1. Histoire: Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. III.)

2. Introduction Biblique: Nouveau Testament.—*Fargues*.

3. Philosophie.—*Boirac*. (Pp. 312 à 516.)

4. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon*. (Vol. I.)

5. Exégèse Saint Jean.—*Godet*. (Dernier edition revisee par *Geo Godet*.)

A Lire:

1. Vers l'Eglise libre.—*Narfon*.

2. Le Christianisme Social.—*Fallot*.

3. La Philosophie de la Croix.—*Gindraux*.

4. Histoire de la Bible en France.—*Lortsch*.

5. La Papauté.—*Doellinger*.

§ 5. QUATRIEME ANNÉE

1. Histoire. Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. IV.)

2. Apologetique. Mission historique de Jésus.—*Monnier*.

3. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon*. (Vol. II.)

4. Exégèse—Saint Paul.—*A. Sabatier*.

5. Philosophie. Philosophie de la Religion.—*Sabatier*.

A Lire:

1. L'Oeuvre du Saint Esprit.—*Tophel*.

2. Valeur de l'Experience religieuse.—*Bois*.

3. Apologetique du Christianisme.—*Berthoud*.

4. Le Christ et la pensée moderne.—*Gindraux*.

5. Theologie Catholique.

¶ 607. BULGARIAN COURSE

§ 1. RECEPTION ON TRIAL

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church. (In Bulgarian.)

2. Bible History. (New Testament.)—*Smith*. (Bulgarian translation.)
3. Life of Wesley.—*Lelièvre*. (First half of book.)
4. Ancient History.—*Kareeff*.
5. Bulgarian History.—*Bobcheff*.
6. Bulgarian Syntax.—*Mircheff*.
7. Catechism Number 2. (Bulgarian translation.)
8. A short written statement of the Christian experience of the candidate and his call to preach the gospel.

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*. (Part I of Bulgarian translation.)
2. Life of Wesley.—*Lelièvre*. (Last half of book.)
3. History of the Middle Ages.—*Kareeff*.
4. Rhetoric.—*B. Angeloff*. (First part.)
5. Binney's Compend. (In Bulgarian.)
6. Evidences of Christianity. (First half.)
7. English Language. (Part I, translation.)—*R. Thomson*. (First part.)
8. A written sermon on the Fall of Man or the Atonement.

To be Read:

1. Imago Christi.
2. How to Bring Souls to Christ.

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*. (Part II.)
2. Exegesis.—The Gospel of Luke.—*Riggs*.
3. The Evidences of Christianity. (Second half of the book.)
4. The Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
5. Modern History.—*Vareeff*.
6. Rhetoric.—*B. Angeloff*. (Part II.)
7. English Language.—*R. Thomson*. (Parts II and III; translation.)
8. A written sermon on Justification by Faith.

¶ 608 OTHER COURSES

To be Read:

Natural Theology.—*A. Tsanoff.*

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. Psychology.—*Plehanoff.*
2. Christian Baptism.—*Merrill.* (Bulgarian translation.)
3. Ethics.—*Janet.* (Bulgarian translation.)
4. Contemporaneous History.—*Agaura.*
5. Church History.—*Giesler.* (First half of the book.)
6. Logic.—*Plehanoff.*
7. Bulgarian Literature.—*Mircheff.*
8. English Grammar, Syntax.—*Harvey.* (Translation.)
9. Exegesis: The Gospel of John.
10. A written sermon on Regeneration or Sanctification.

To be Read:

The Life of Saint Paul.—*Stalker.*

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Logic.—*Plehanoff.* (Last half of book.)
2. Church History.—*Giesler.* (Last half of book.)
3. History of Civilization. (In English.)
4. Homiletics.—*Kidder.* (In English.)
5. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder.* (In English.)
6. Exegesis: Paul's Epistle to the Romans.—*Riggs.*
7. Exegesis: The Epistle to the Hebrews.
8. English Language: Translation from English into Bulgarian.

To be Read:

1. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur;* 2. Soul or Brain. (Translated from the Russian.) 3. Is the Bible the Word of God?—*Holway.*

¶ 608. OTHER COURSES

For Courses presented in Ojibway, and in the languages of Africa, India, Malaysia, China, Japan, and

COURSES OF STUDY—DEACONESSES ¶ 609

Korea, see the Year Books of Annual Conferences and Missions.

FOR DEACONESSES

¶ 609. Course of Study for Deaconesses

§ 1. The General Deaconess Board, at its discretion, may add to the studies for examination under the direction of Annual Conference Deaconess Boards, other topics of instruction, particularly such as relate to methods of work.

§ 2. Candidates preparing to be nurses will pursue the regular course of training for that purpose in a school connected with some good hospital, preferably one under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church, provided that in doing so studies numbered 1, 2, and 5 of the first year, and 1, 2, and 4 of the second year shall not be omitted.

§ 3. All candidates must pass an examination in the Elementary English Branches, such as is usually required to secure a common school teacher's certificate, or admission into secondary or high schools.

§ 4. Throughout the course the candidate shall present a written statement as to whether she has or has not given to each book a careful reading, and shall submit a syllabus of some chapter or subject previously announced by the Annual Conference Deaconess Board.

§ 5. FIRST YEAR

1. The English Bible. (1) Pentateuch and Historical Books to the Captivity. (2) The Gospels.
2. The Worker and His Bible.—*Eiselen and Barclay*.
3. The Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
4. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler*.
5. Standard Catechism of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
6. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912.

¶ 609 COURSES OF STUDY—DEACONESSSES

To be Read:

1. Life of Wesley.—*Winchester*.
2. History of American Methodism, abridged.—*Stevens*.
3. Love Enthroned.—*Steele*.
4. Deaconesses.—*Wheeler*.

§ 6. SECOND YEAR

1. The English Bible. (1.) Historical Books, after the Captivity, and the Poetical and Prophetical Books. (2.) The Acts, the Epistles, and the Book of Revelation.
2. Teacher Training Lessons.—*Hurlbut*.
3. Quiet Talks on Service.—*Gordon*.
4. Life of Paul.—*Stalker*.
5. Manual of Christian Doctrine.—*Banks*.
6. Social Teaching of the Bible.—*Keeble*.

To be Read:

1. Short History of the Christian Church.—*Hurst*.
2. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.
3. Western Women in Eastern Lands.—*Montgomery*.
4. The Heart of Asbury's Journal.—*Tipple*.
5. Text-Book of Nursing.—*Weeks-Shaw*.

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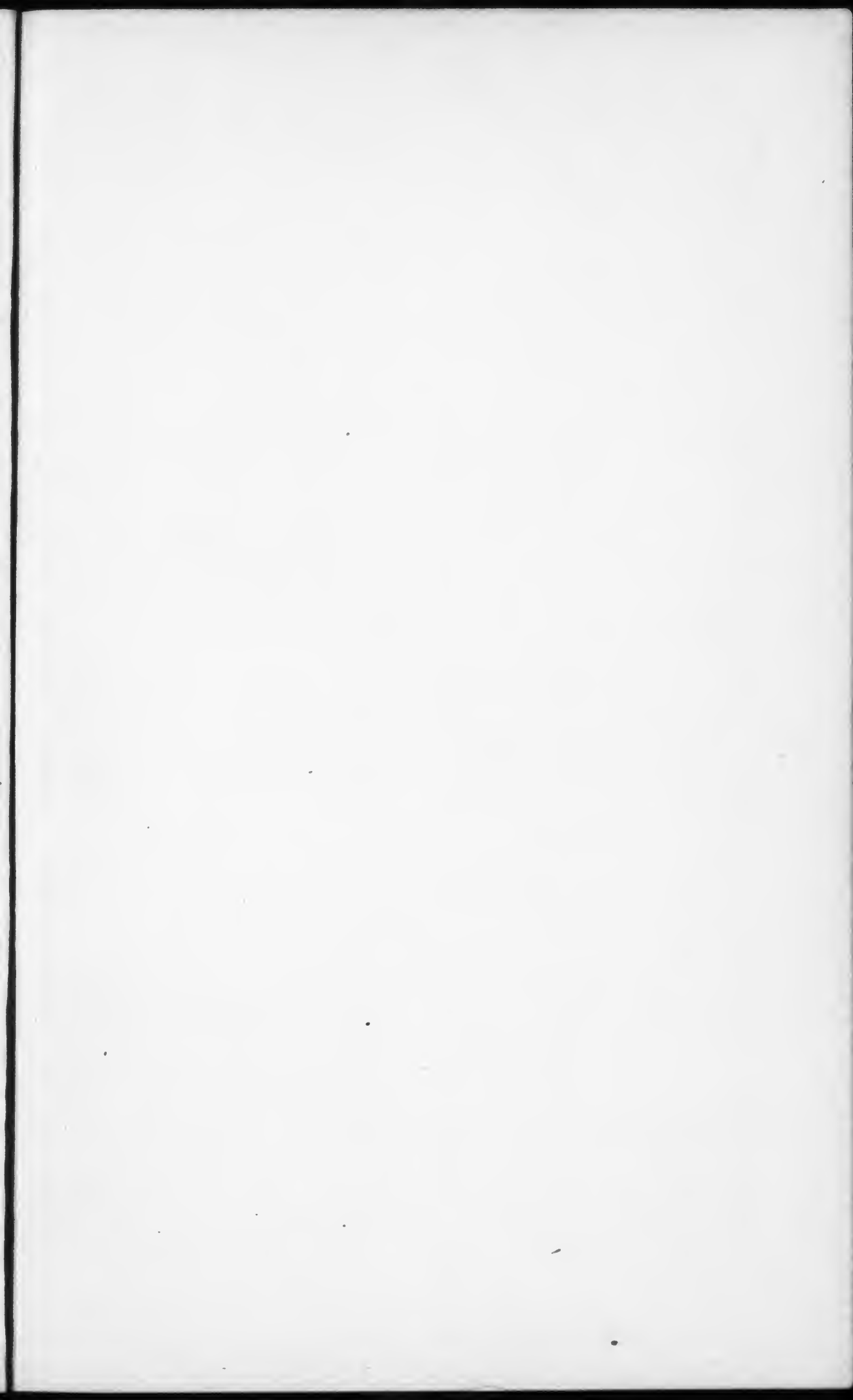
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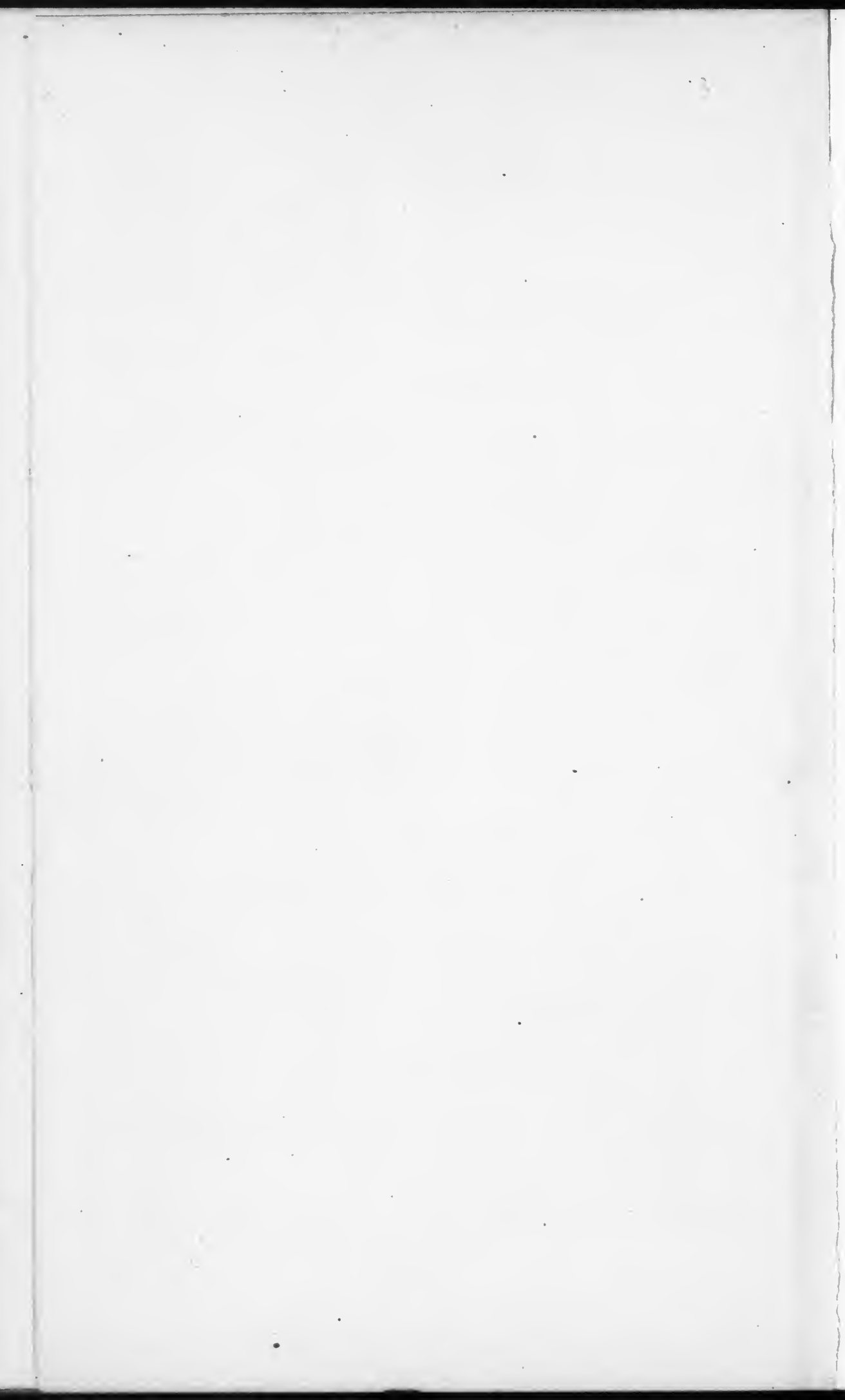
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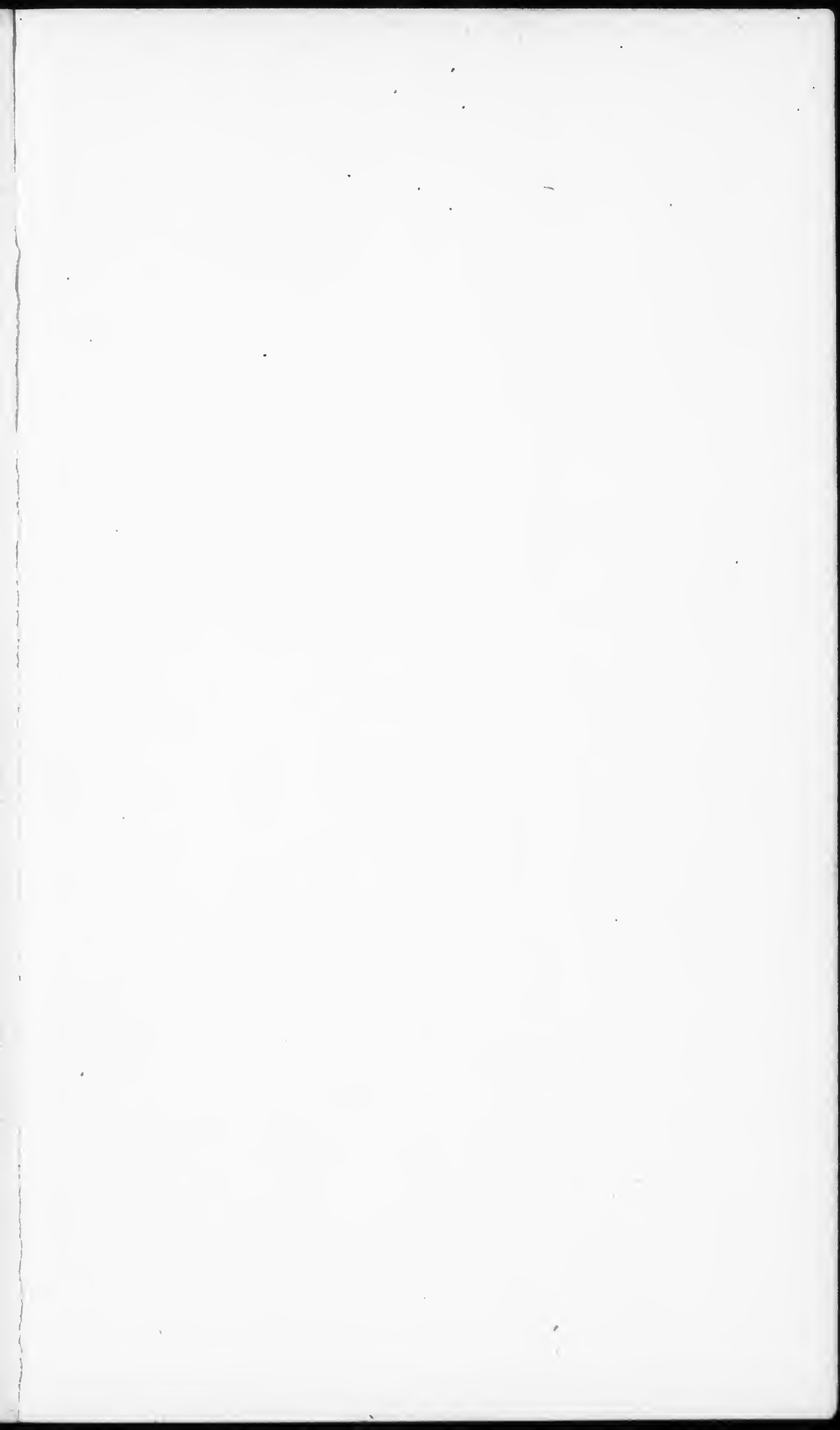
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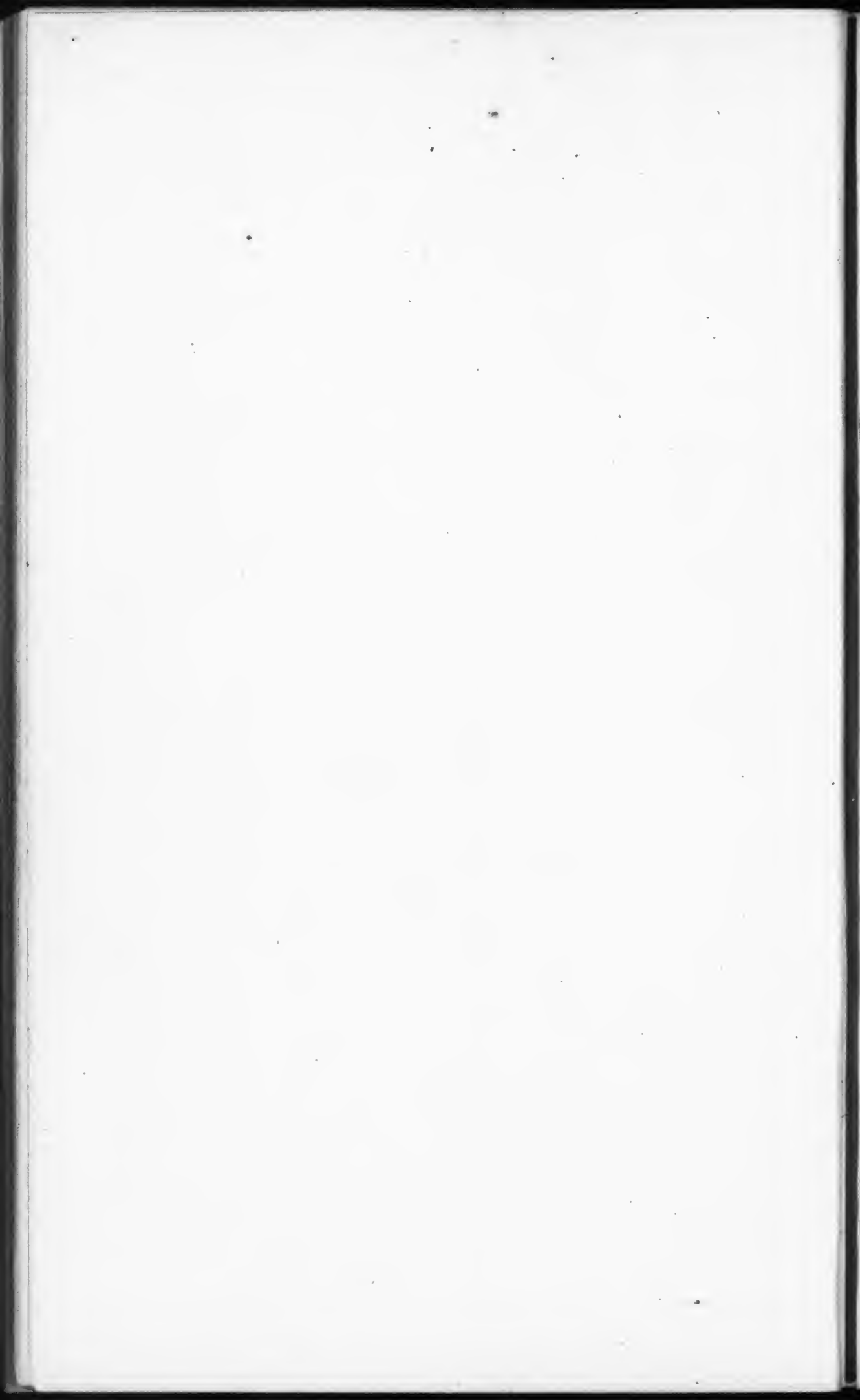
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